

**ADVANCED
SCUBA**

DIVE PREP FOR UNDER-ICE EXCURSIONS

skin diver

WORLD'S BEST READ SCUBA DIVING MAGAZINE



JANUARY 1996

\$3.50 U.S.A.

\$4.25 CANADA

FIJI South Seas **ISLANDS** Travel Guide

DIVE SCIENCE UPDATE:
FROM UHMS WORKSHOPS

SHARKS
YOU SHOULD KNOW
The Sixgill Shark

WINTER DIVE GETAWAYS

- Nassau, Bahamas
- Roatan, Bay Islands
- Ambergris Caye, Belize
- Guanacaste, Costa Rica

EQUIPMENT REVIEWS:

- Uwaterc's DataTrak for Aladin Computers • Scubapro's SeaHawk BC
- Ikelite's Rechargeable RCD Light • Ocean Guide: A New Name in Dive Gear
- 12 Super Neat Scuba Accessories • Jean-Michel Cousteau's World CD-ROM

LIVE-ABOARDS:

Blackbeard's Cruises—Bahamas
Adventure Class Live-Aboards

I LEARNED... Prior "Rescue Diver" Training and a School
of Friendly Dolphins Help a Diver Out of a Bad Situation



EON
EON
EON



SUUNTO

The time has come for a new generation of dive computer.

EON. Revolutionary compact, air-integrated dive computer that accurately chronicles vital statistics of up to 25 hours of diving time. The phosphorescent LCD screen - excellent for night diving - displays valuable information from 45 functions. **EON** also features an audible alarm system to warn you about low tank pressure, excessive ascent rate or depth and potential decompression situations.

EON comes equipped with a built-in dive simulator for use before and between dives to simulate the next dive's no decompression limits. The **EON** dive time memory is divided into three different formats: logbook, profile, and history. And with available software **EON** can be interfaced with your personal computer to keep a detailed logbook of your dive profiles.

It's been a long time coming, but perfection has definitely arrived. **EON.** The ultimate in dive computer technology.

seaQuest

1996

BY BILL GLEASON



The first issue of SKIN DIVER appeared in December 1951 and this New Year marks the beginning of our 45th year of pub-

lishing the magazine. The first issue, called The SKIN DIVER, was 16 pages long and contained no color photographs. It was devoted exclusively to spearfishing—there wasn't a single mention of scuba. This was understandable at the time, since there were only ten Aqua-Lungs (early tank and regulator combinations) in existence in the United States.

The magazine was named The SKIN DIVER because the pioneers of diving were the returning World War II vets (and their generation), who explored the seas without regulators, tanks and BCs. Armed with makeshift masks, fins and snorkels, these breath-hold divers competed with each other to see who could land the largest seabass, Striped Bass and the like. They were literally "skin" divers, since neoprene wetsuits had not yet appeared on the scene. Indeed, pundits at the time thought drysuits of vulcanized rubber were the solution to staying warm in the water. In those days, any diver even thinking of showing up on the beach with something pink or purple would have to contend with the business end of all those spearguns! It was a time of macho heaven and women brave enough to play the game earned the sobriquet "girl skin diver."

There are, to our knowledge, about 15 complete sets of SKIN DIVER in existence. Two are at the magazine's headquarters; the rest are in the hands of private collectors around the world. Leafing through 44 years of diving is a fascinating glimpse into the history of our sport. During its first 10 years, the magazine continued to showcase breath-hold spearfishing but scuba and underwater photography began making their presence felt. Diving was conducted by clubs and regional councils in those days, complete with holiday banquets (tie and jacket required!) and award ceremonies. Film festivals ruled the social side of diving and the early un-

derwater filmmakers were the reigning stars of the day.

There were quite a few skin divers out there, many more than most people would think. Although no hard statistics exist, the '50s and '60s saw hundreds of thousands of spearfishermen (and girl skin divers) hit the water in search of big game. It was an "in" thing to do and pro-



vided a fertile ground for the acceptance of scuba, which became mainstream in the mid '60s. The big fish were becoming more elusive by then and divers were forced to travel to Mexico and the Caribbean in search of big game. So began what would become the most popular activity in the diving world today, overseas travel.

For several years in the early days, we featured an International Beach Temp-tress contest and its bikini clad stars were the cover shots of more than a few issues. Perhaps that explains our current reluctance to indulge in swimsuit issues as do so many other magazines—we've been there, done that.

The '70s saw a boom in diving, with national certification finally an accepted practice and the introduction and acceptance of BCs as a must-have piece of equipment. Up until then, BCs were mostly military surplus navy vests, used only for emergency flotation. (They were dubbed Mae Wests.) Resorts catering to divers made their appearance and became popular with traveling divers. The seeds of modern day diving had been sown; the next two decades would prosper on the foundations laid in the early '70s. We would see major advances in all areas of equipment, certification, safety and travel and these trends would continue through the '90s.

I don't think even the earliest visionaries in the diving world thought they would someday be downloading their dive computers into their home PCs (much

less laptops), yet this is now commonplace. While steeped in a history of spearfishing, the diving world today is driven to conserve, not consume, our marine resources. The Giant Seabass, so frequently pictured in the hands of spearfishermen on the early pages of this magazine, disappeared from the waters of Southern California and is making a modest comeback only now. And, while the collective efforts of all the spearfishing folks over the years represent less than 100th of one percent of the landed catch of commercial fishermen, we have learned valuable lessons from history. Conservation, not mindless consumption, is the key to our oceans' future.

The historical perspective of SKIN DIVER's 44 year run in the dive publishing business gives us a unique and valuable insight into the diving world. It also makes us part of a family that routinely produces a magazine every 20 working days. In anticipation of beginning our 45th year, we embarked on a program to re-design the magazine six months ago. The goal behind this program was to present you with even more information than you regularly receive and to present it in a clearer format. Changes have been incorporated slowly into previous issues in order to test reader response. We're happy to report that the overwhelming majority of readers liked the changes. This issue marks the first time you'll see the collective changes in print. I even had to throw away my old photograph and get a new one; congratulations to the staff for the not-so-subtle pressure they exerted on their boss in order to bring about this change!

While we are all the beneficiaries of SKIN DIVER's historical perspective, our mandate here is to bring you the most up to date news and information on the diving world. History has taught us to give you facts and figures and let you form your own opinions.

In addition to wishing you and your families the very best in this new year, our staff has done a great job in bringing a new look to the magazine. As always, feel free to write or fax us with your comments and opinions and a continued "thank you" to all of those who have generously contributed their thoughts in the past.

Let's go diving! 🐟

skin diver

Volume Forty-five • Number One

THE FIJI ISLANDS

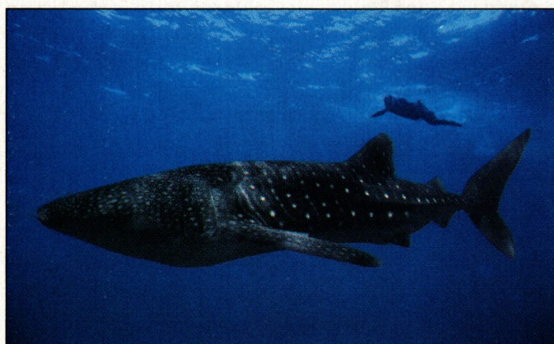
Walls of every color, reefs of every shape

75



ENVIRONMENTAL ESSAY COMPETITION 72

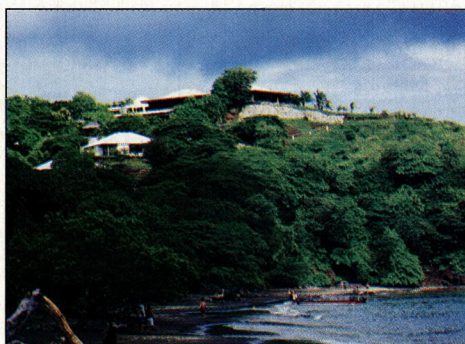
May we have the envelope please?



ADVENTURE CLASS LIVE-ABOARDS

58

Combining luxury and service with breathtaking experiences



EL OCOTAL

Costa Rica's

premier dedicated dive resort

60

7 GREAT ANIMAL DIVES IN THE CARIBBEAN 40

Face to fin with exciting wildlife!

SURFACE SUPPLIED AIR

Diving without a tank offers special pleasures

16



PHOTOGRAPHY

42 SLR Photo Tips: Making Autofocus Easy/Geri Murphy

110 SDM's U/W Video Course: How to Edit as You Shoot/Jim Church

DIVE EQUIPMENT

8 Uwatec's DataTrak for the Aladin Series Computers/Bonnie J. Cardone

10 Ikelite's Rechargeable RCD Light: Revolutionary Rear Clamp Design Provides Easy Access and a Sure Seal/Jim Walker

12 Scuba Accessories: SDM Editors Pick Items That Make Diving Safer, Easier and More Fun/Tamara Collins and Ty Sawyer

16 Surface Supplied Air: Diving Without a Tank Offers Special Pleasures/Joe Sink

24 Scubapro SeaHawk: A Brawny Technical BC with a Smart Integrated Weight System/Tamara Collins

27 Ocean Guide: A New Name for Quality and Service/Jim Walker

LIVE-ABOARD DIVING

58 Adventure Class Live-Aboards: Combining Luxury and Service with Breathtaking Experiences/Carl Roessler

88 Blackbeard's Cruises: Sail Away to Bahamas Adventures/Rick Frehsee

CARIBBEAN DIVING

56 San Pedro Holiday Hotel/Bottom Time Dive Shop: A Dive Dedicated Beach Resort with Old Caribbean Flavor/Rick Frehsee

92 Roatan's Reef House Resort: Home Away from Home in the Bay Islands/Rick Frehsee

98 Nassau's Bahama Divers: Paradise Topside and Under the Sea/Al Hornsby

PACIFIC DIVING

60 El Ocotal: Costa Rica's Premier Dedicated Dive Resort/Geri Murphy

75 The Fiji Islands: Walls of Every Color, Reefs of Every Shape/Bill Gleason



92 ROATAN'S REEF HOUSE RESORT

Home away from home in the Bay Islands



98 NASSAU'S BAHAMA DIVERS

Paradise topside and under the sea

SAN PEDRO HOLIDAY HOTEL/ BOTTOM TIME DIVE SHOP 56

A dive dedicated beach resort with old Caribbean flavor



DIVER'S INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

44 Demonstrated leadership in commercial diving



34 DIVER'S ACADEMY OF THE EASTERN SEABOARD

First step in a commercial diving career

BLACKBEARD'S CRUISES

Sail away to Bahamas adventures

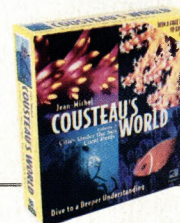
88



JEAN-MICHEL COUSTEAU'S WORLD

Engaging interface and spectacular graphics highlight first CD in series

22



CAREER DEVELOPMENT

- 34 Divers Academy of the Eastern Seaboard: First Step in a Commercial Diving Career/Herb Segars
- 44 Divers Institute of Technology: Demonstrated Leadership in Commercial Diving/E.R. Cross

MARINE LIFE

- 18 Sharks You Should Know: The Bluntnose Sixgill/Bonnie J. Cardone

TRAVEL TIPS

- 40 Seven Great Animal Dives in the Caribbean: Face to Fin with Exciting Wildlife/Geri Murphy

MISCELLANEOUS

- 22 Jean-Michel Cousteau's World CD-ROM/Ty Sawyer
- 72 Jean-Michel Cousteau's Environmental Essay Competition/J.M. Cousteau

COLUMNS

- 3 EDITORIAL: 1996
- 14 DIVE MEDICINE: Dive Science Update
- 20 ADVANCED DIVING: Dive Prep for Under-Ice Excursions
- 32 TECHNIFACTS: Physics: Back to Basics
- 130 I LEARNED ABOUT DIVING FROM THAT: Prior "Rescue Diver" Training and a School of Friendly Dolphins Help a Diver out of a Bad Situation

DEPARTMENTS

- 6 DIVER'S CALENDAR: Diving Symposiums, Exhibitions and Other Upcoming Events You Should Know About
- 31 SCUBA QUIZ: Physics Laws
- 113 OVERSEAS DIVERS' DIRECTORY: Who to Contact for Your Next Dive Trip
- 128 ADVERTISER DIRECTORY: A Quick Guide to the People Who Know About Diving



ABOUT THE COVER: This comical creature is the Roughback Batfish (*Ogcocephalus parvus*), a member of the odd-shaped bottom dwellers that include toadfish, clingfish and frogfish. Rarely seen on coral reefs, they are sometimes found near and under piers. This one was photographed off Grand Turk, Turks & Caicos Islands. Photo/Geri Murphy.

NAUI at DEMA

NAUI will host numerous seminars and programs for dive professionals at the 1996 DEMA show in New Orleans, Louisiana on **January 16 to 21**. The cost for seminars ranges from free (all seminars given at the convention center during the show are free) to \$225.

For a list of sessions and times and information on NAUI programs call (909) 621-5801 or fax (909) 621-6405. 🐟

Lancaster Sport Divers Present Gary Gentile

Lancaster Sport Divers and Lancaster Scuba Center will present noted author and diver Gary Gentile on **January 20** for a three session seminar on Advanced Wreck Diving, Introduction to High Tech Diving and slide show on the June 1994 *Lusitania* expedition. The event will be held at the Days Inn in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Tickets can be purchased for individual seminars or a discount combination for all three sessions. Days Inn will offer reduced room rates for all attendees.

Contact Dennis Leese for pricing information, directions and ticket orders at (717) 293-0641. 🐟

CA Wreck Divers Host Evening with Mel Fisher

The legendary treasure hunter and underwater explorer, Mel Fisher, will be the guest speaker at the California Wreck Divers annual banquet in Los Angeles, California on **January 27**. The presentation will include a slide show and a display of some of the *Atocha* treasure. The event will be held in the banquet room at Reuben's Restaurant in Marina Del Rey.

Advance registration is required.

For ticket information call Steve Lawson at (310) 530-7284. 🐟

Oceanwatch and Baltimore Aquarium Host Reef Ecology Seminar

Oceanwatch and the National Aquarium in Baltimore, Maryland will hold their popular coral reef seminar for scuba divers on **January 28**. Divers will review skills for proper reef etiquette, participate in a slide presentation, review basic reef biology and tour the Atlantic Coral Reef, a 335,000 gallon exhibit with a wide variety of fish species.

To register call (410) 727-FISH. 🐟

Diving Festival '96

Diving Festival '96 will be held at the Pacific Convention Plaza in Yokohama, Japan on **February 8 to 11**. In its tenth

year, the festival features everything from dive equipment to resort information and packaging. The public is welcome.

For more information about attending or exhibiting write to Mionru Shibata, Chief Convention Director, Toranomon Center Building, 1-16-17, Minato-Ku, Tokyo 105, Japan or call 81-03-3503-7611; fax 81-03-3503-7620. 🐟

GOAF '96

The tenth annual San Francisco Chronicle Great Outdoor Adventure Fair (GOAF) with KRON-TV4 will be held **March 1 to 3** at the Concourse Exhibition Center. Experts on every type of outdoor activity, gear, ecotravel and exotic destinations will exhibit their latest advances and ideas, answer your toughest questions and help plan your dream adventure.

For information call (800) 521-3247, (414) 786-5600; fax (414) 786-0697. 🐟

The Boston Sea Rovers Thrill of the Chill Photo Contest

The Boston Sea Rovers, in conjunction with its 42nd Annual Clinic, will hold its second annual Photo Contest, The Thrill of the Chill, at the Copley Plaza Hotel in Boston, Massachusetts **March 2 to 3**. For amateur photographers, this event celebrates cold water diving in three categories: macro, standard and wide angle. The deadline for entries is **January 1**. All entries must be 35mm slides. Great prizes from Nikon will be awarded.

For more information on the clinic and photo contest call (617) 424-9899 or contact Patricia Morton, 17 Merrimack Drive, Merrimack, NH 03054. 🐟

California Chocolate Abalone Dive

The 12th annual California Chocolate Abalone Dive is scheduled for **March 23** at San Carlos Beach in Monterey, California. Divers search for 500 vacuum packed California Chocolate Abalone. Four hundred prizes are given away, including trips to Grand Cayman and The Bahamas, a U.S. Divers regulator, other dive gear and stays in local hotels. Pre-registration is \$20; same day is \$23. Participants must be certified or they may free dive.

For information call (408) 375-1933 or fax (408) 375-3051. 🐟

skin diver

SUBSCRIBERS:

Please direct all address changes, questions and inquiries regarding your subscription to:

1-800-800-3487

skin diver

STAFF

PAUL TZIMOULIS / V.P., Executive Publisher
BILL GLEASON / Publisher-Editor
CAROLYN PASCAL-GUARINO / Associate Publisher/Editor
JIM R. WARNER / Group Operations Manager
BONNIE J. CARDONE / Executive Editor
LEE ALEXANDER / Managing Editor
SUZANNE VIAL-BABCOCK / Art Director
TAMARA COLLINS / Associate Editor
TY SAWYER / Assistant Editor
SYLVESTER OWENS / Copy Editor
BRANDI CENTENO / Associate Art Director
SUSAN GRUBE / Assistant Art Director
BUFFY JOHNSON / Administrative Assistant
PAMELA BRANNAN / Administrative Assistant
CONNIE BENNETTS / Adv. Statistics Analyst
MIA MARZAN / Ad Coordinator
BOBETTE LOVELAND / Ad Coordinator

EDITORIAL OFFICES

6420 Wilshire Blvd.
 Los Angeles, CA 90048-5515
 (213) 782-2960
 FAX (213) 782-2121

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

ALFRED A. BOVE, M.D., Ph.D.
JIM CHURCH
E.R. CROSS
RICK FREHSEE
STEPHEN FRINK
DENNIS GRAVER
AL HORNSBY
GERI MURPHY
JEANNE B. SLEEPER
JIM WALKER

PETERSEN PUBLISHING COMPANY Corporate Offices

(213) 782-2000

ROBERT E. PETERSEN / Chairman of the Board
FREDERICK R. WAINGROW / President
PETER F. CLANCEY / Sr. V.P., Corporate Marketing and Sales

JOHN DIANNA / V.P., Executive Publisher
LEE KELLEY / V.P., Executive Publisher
PAUL TZIMOULIS / V.P., Executive Publisher
RICHARD P. LAGUE / V.P., Executive Publisher
KEN ELLIOTT / V.P., Executive Publisher
JAY N. COLE / V.P., Executive Publisher
RICHARD S. WILLIS / V.P., Finance
JAMES J. KRENEK / V.P., Manufacturing
NIGEL P. HEATON / V.P., Circ. Mkt. Development
LEO D. LA REW / Director, Human Resources
BOB D'OLIVO / Director, Photography
BRUCE BURTON / Director of Advertising / Petersen Magazine Network
CAROL JOHNSON / Director, Advertising Operations
DON MCGILGATHERY / Director, Advertising Research
RICHARD E. JOHNSON / Controller
JOHN A. MAZEIKA / Director, Imaging Systems
MARK JANUSZ / Director, Circulation Operations

ADVERTISING OFFICES

WESTERN SALES

JANET MORRISSEY-SEVERO / WESTERN SALES MANAGER

BRAD GERBER
SUSAN SAVELA
THALIA FAKLIS
ANDY DELLENBACH
KIM WALMER

AD SALES SUPPORT AND GENERAL INFORMATION

VIVIAN WILLIAMS
DEBORAH CLAASSENS
MICHELLE TURCZYN
YOLANDA VALLE
VICKI PHILLIPS
 6420 Wilshire Blvd.
 Los Angeles, CA 90048-5515
 (213) 782-2760
 FAX (213) 782-2556

EASTERN SALES

CAROLYN PASCAL-GUARINO / ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER/EDITOR
ED MONK
CAROLINE COURTNEY
L. BONNIE BORKIN
MARK MELROSE
DONNA GIBSON

NEW YORK OFFICE

437 Madison Avenue, 4th Floor
 New York, NY 10022
 (212) 935-9150
 FAX (212) 355-6706

The Club Med Dive Program

Diving is exhilarating, especially when all you need to do is enjoy the experience. And there is no better place to do that than any of Club Med's four Dedicated Dive Centers — St. Lucia, Columbus Isle,TM Turkoise or Sonora Bay. You see, we understand diving and what divers expect. That's why all the details, from equipment to food and refreshments, are provided for you. And,

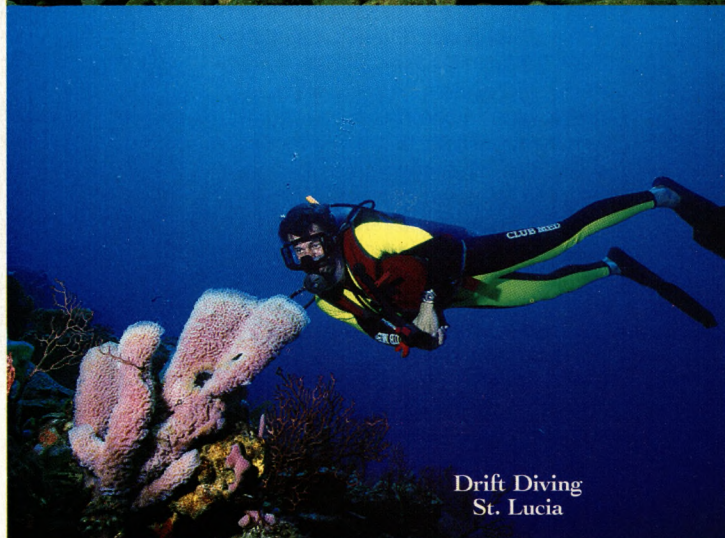
**A dive program so intense
it's absolutely comforting.**

with fully certified dive instructors on all excursions, we not only offer the highest quality diving, we also provide a unique level of comfort. So whether it's drift diving, reef diving, wall diving or diving with sea lions, all our programs are as intense as any other activity offered at Club Med. So intense, all you need to do is enjoy them. For more information, call your Travel Agent or 1-800-CLUB MED.

Club Med[®]
Life as it should be[™]



Sea Lions
Sonora Bay



Drift Diving
St. Lucia



Wall & Reef Diving
Turkoise



Wall & Reef Diving
Columbus Isle

Uwatec's DataTrak

For the Aladin Series Computers

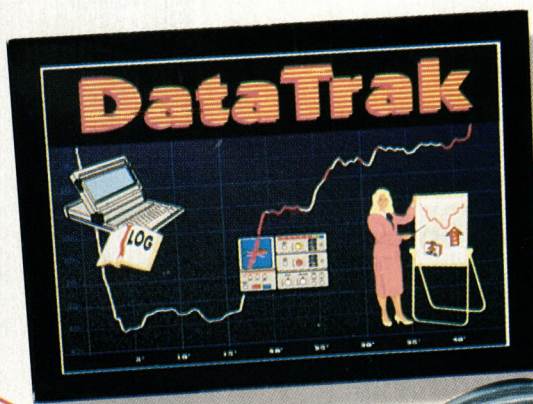
TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHY BY BONNIE J. CARDONE

If memories of your last dive trip are what sustain you through the cold of winter, you might want to take a good look at Uwatec's Aladin dive computers and accompanying DataTrak software. Even the hassles of everyday life fade from mind when the profile of your last dive (or one to come) is up on your PC, running in real time. As you start your descent, a tiny diver appears on the screen and, as you move your cursor, it follows your actual profile. You see every up and down, while colorful graphics chart your progress. In the middle top of the screen, a bargraph shows the percentage saturation/desaturation of eight tissues. Another graph depicts three situations: the estimated effect of microbubbles in arterial circulation and tissue; the cooling of skin temperature; and the diver's workload as measured by air consumption. Just to the right of this graph, a gauge face estimates air consumption in cubic feet per minute.

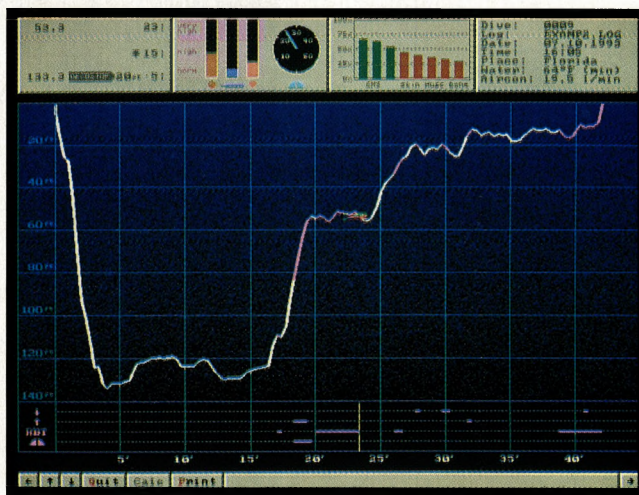
At the far top left of the screen, a dive computer display recreates the information that appeared on your Aladin computer at each specific moment of the dive. Shown are maximum depth, current depth, dive time and other essential information.

On the far top right of the screen is the dive log. It shows the dive number, date, time and place the dive took place as well as the lowest water temperature and average air consumption.

Across the bottom of the screen, any alarms your computer gave you during the dive are displayed in bright pink. If you ignored a prescribed decompression stop, ascended too fast, exceeded the no decompression limits or breathed too fast, it will be recorded in this section. The chart shows how deep and how many minutes into the dive you were



With Uwatec's DataTalk/Data-Trak you can download dive log information from an Aladin computer and display it on a PC as shown below.



when each alarm occurred.

Besides viewing your dive profiles on the screen, you can print them in black and white or color, depending upon your printer.

Information downloaded from the Aladin computers is displayed not only in a graphic dive profile, as described above, but also in traditional logbook form. Each dive in the logbook has a number; when you click on that number a logbook page appears on the screen. This allows you to enter data an Aladin

computer doesn't record, such as locale, dive site name, weather, type of exposure garment worn, air temperature, tank size, type of dive, activity and the names of dive buddies. In the remarks section you can note any special marine life sightings and experiences or, if you're a photographer, film shot, camera and lens used, etc. When you print this record of your dive and have your buddy sign it, it can be used as a page in a permanent logbook.

The logbook function also allows the compiling of dive statistics, i.e., the number of dives, number of repetitive dives, number of dives in cer-

Left: Downloaded information from an Aladin computer can be displayed on a PC as a dive profile. All of the information that appeared on the computer face during a dive is shown, as is information that was recorded but not displayed.

tain depth ranges, number of dives of each type and/or activity (sightseeing, photo, wreck, etc.).

While managing information from Aladin computers is the primary use of DataTrak (as many as 37 dives and 200 minutes of detailed dive profile information can be downloaded), you can also enter information manually, perhaps to record dives made before you started using an Aladin computer.

Besides recreating a past dive simply for enjoyment, DataTrak is a valuable educational aid because it allows you to an-

Spanish, German, English, French or Italian. You can run the program in color, gray scale or monochrome.

ALADIN COMPUTERS

Uwatec's dive computers include the Aladin Sport, the Aladin Pro, the Aladin Air X and the brand new Aladin Nitrox. Three of these instruments are pictured in this article and our sidebar lists the features of all four.

The Aladin Sport is the entry level computer. Capable of 21 separate functions, it was designed for recreational divers who

have no interest in decompression diving.

The Aladin Pro, capable of 25 separate functions, is more sophisticated than the Sport. It was specifically designed for those who make decompression dives.

The super sophisticated Aladin Air X is the instrument of the future. An interactive air integrated computer, it has no hose. Instead, a small cylindrical unit screws into a high pressure port on the regulator first stage and transmits tank pressure to the receiver (worn on your wrist) via radio signals.

(Continued on Page 65)



The Aladin Sport, shown here with screen guard, is an entry level computer with 21 functions.



The 25 function Aladin Pro was designed especially for decompression diving.



The Aladin Air X is an air integrated yet hoseless dive computer. The receiver is shown left, the transmitter below.

alyze your dives. With a dive profile up on the screen you can determine what went wrong and why—so problems can be avoided in the future.

Uwatec developed DataTalk/DataTrak to allow information from its four Aladin dive computers to be downloaded and displayed on a PC. DataTalk is the program that downloads the information, DataTrak allows the data to be displayed on a PC. The software we used was specifically designed for DOS operating systems but a DataTrak for Windows will be available early this year. Versatile DataTrak offers its displays in metric or Imperial measurements and a choice of

Aladin Computer Features

	Sport	Pro	Air X	Nitrox
Auto on/off	✓	✓	✓	✓
Auto self-diagnostics	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dive time	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dive depth 0 to 330 feet	✓	✓	✓	✓
Deepest deco stop (depth)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Deepest deco stop (time)		✓	✓	✓
Total time of ascent		✓	✓	✓
Desaturation time	✓	✓	✓	✓
No fly indicator	✓	✓	✓	✓
No fly time	✓	✓	✓	✓
Audible alarms		✓	✓	✓
Altitude compensation to 13,300 feet	✓	✓	✓	✓
Altitude adaptation time	✓	✓	✓	✓
Operating mode indicator	✓	✓	✓	✓
Maximum depth	✓	✓	✓	✓
No stop time	✓	✓	✓	✓
Surface interval	✓	✓	✓	✓
Logbook (number of dives)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Remaining battery life percentage display	✓	✓	✓	✓
Low battery warning	✓	✓	✓	✓
Microbubble compensated algorithm	✓	✓	✓	✓
Variable ascent rate 20 to 180 feet/minute (with percent ascent speed display)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Fast ascent alarm	✓	✓	✓	✓
Buehlmann ZH-L8ADT adaptive algorithm system (8 tissues)	✓	✓	✓	✓
High air consumption warning			✓	✓
Quantity of air used			✓	✓
Tank pressure (temperature compensated)			✓	✓
Remaining bottom time			✓	✓
Luminous display	✓	✓	✓	✓
Pre-dive plan	✓	✓	✓	✓
Decompression dive simulator		✓	✓	✓
Surface interval simulator		✓	✓	✓
Diver exposure compensated algorithm	✓	✓	✓	✓
Workload compensated algorithm			✓	✓
Remaining bottom time display			✓	✓
Multiple acoustic alarms		✓	✓	✓
Workload compensated decompression times			✓	✓
Oxygen mixture display				✓
Percentage CNS oxygen limit display				✓
Oxygen mixtures of 21 to 50 percent				✓
Partial pressure 1.20 to 1.95 bar w/auto depth alarms				✓
RETAIL PRICE	\$350	\$495	\$995	\$1,195

Ikelite's Rechargeable RCD LIGHT

The Rechargeable RCD has a 4.7 volt halogen bulb and provides 18 watts of power.



Revolutionary Rear Clamp Design Provides Easy Access And a Sure Seal

BY JIM WALKER

PHOTOGRAPHY BY BONNIE J. CARDONE

If you use dive lights often, you've most likely had at least one flood underwater. That's because dive lights can't be permanently sealed. The user has to open them to change (or charge) batteries and bulbs. The seal at the opening usually consists of an O-ring sandwiched in a screw-down mechanism. If you don't twist the seal tight enough, it will leak. If you twist it too tight, it could be extremely hard to open later—not to mention the damage you could do to the O-ring and threads. Threaded mechanisms can also become jammed by salt residue. The solution, of course, would be to create a light that seals without threads and automatically closes with just the right pressure every time. The solution is Ikelite's RCD light.

RCD stands for Rear Clamp Design, one of the most revolutionary dive light sealing mechanisms ever invented. Super easy to use and super hard to foul

up, this mechanism slides the two halves of the light together around a captured O-ring and, when the clamp is applied, squeezes them together with the perfect pressure every time.

With the rear clamp open and the lens module removed, the batteries slide out easily for charging.



To open the light you only need to pull down the notched extension on the clamp at the back of the light case. Then you flip up the clamp like a pull-tab. It will snap straight up. This opens the light but doesn't allow the lens module to fall away. This is a very handy safety feature. To completely separate the front and back of the light, you rotate the clamp counterclockwise 90 degrees. To close the light you just reverse these steps, pushing the halves of the light together slightly as you rotate the clamp.

The RCD light has a pistol grip with deeply scalloped finger grooves for secure, comfortable handling whether or not you're wearing gloves. The trigger switch is rotated to the right to turn the light on, pushed back to turn it off. A sliding switch lock prevents the light from turning on accidentally. Pushing the slide forward from the back of the grip with your thumb locks the switch in the off position. Pulling the slide back with your forefinger frees the switch. This slide snaps firmly in or out, so locking and unlocking are unmistakable.

The RCD's compact design contributes to its easy handling. Only six inches long, four inches in diameter and weighing a comfortable 2.6 pounds above water (including batteries), the light has a slight negative buoyancy in the water. The result is a handy light pistol with plenty of power.

(Continued on Page 11)



IKELITE'S RECHARGEABLE RCD

(Continued from Page 10)

The light case is super tough ABS plastic and the lens cover, clear polycarbonate. The light is depth rated to 300 feet. A shroud of black rubber protects the lens cover from impacts and prevents distracting light from reflecting out its sides.

The specially shaped, UV-coated silver reflector is covered with tiny dimples. The combination focuses the beam perfectly for intense illumination without annoying hot spots.

The electrical contacts inside the light are stainless steel or nickel plated brass to boost efficiency and resist corrosion. The tensioning springs are also stainless. There is a small plastic sleeve for spare bulb storage.

Two versions of the RCD light are available, utilizing different battery systems and offering different intensities and burn times.

ACCESSORIES

- Spare 4.7 volt halogen bulb\$20
- Break-free wrist lanyard\$2

USER COMMENTS

Handy rear clamp design:

"There's no doubt about it, this light is easy to open and close. Knowing the clamp applies perfect pressure on the O-ring each time is a real comfort."

Lockable switch: "The switch and lock mechanisms are also easy to operate, even when wearing gloves."

Intense beam: "The beam of the rechargeable RCD HR is incredibly bright and even. However, the light's relatively short burn time and long charge time might be a drawback for some uses."

The RCD Halogen (RCD H) is powered by four alkaline D-cells. The 5.2 volt halogen bulb offers a bright but energy efficient 5 watts of power. Combined with the RCD H reflector, this creates a medium bright, spotlight style beam and results in a burn time of up to 10 hours on a fresh set of alkalines. The RCD H comes in seven colors (black, clear, white, yellow, neon green, hot pink and blue) and sells for \$65.

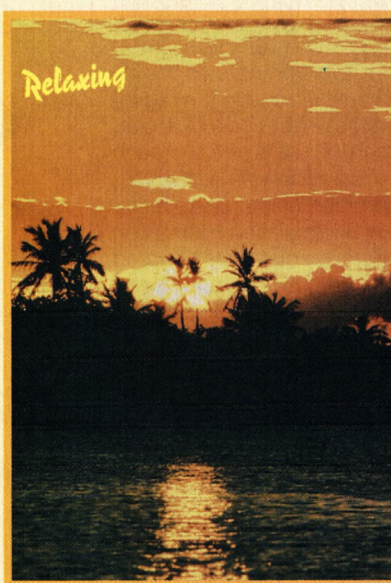
The RCD Halogen Rechargeable (RCD HR)—the focus of this article—is powered by a specially designed four pack of rechargeable nickel-cadmium D-cells. The pack features a built-in

(Continued on Page 69)

Anthony's Key Resort

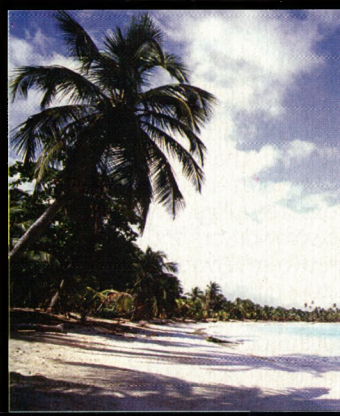
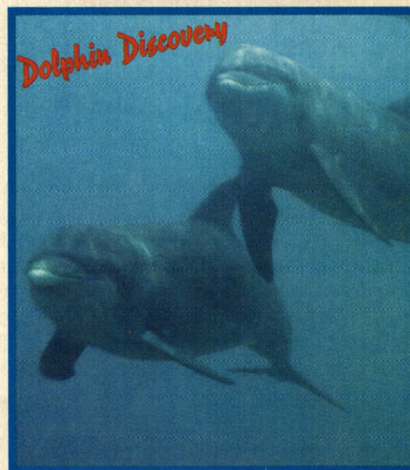
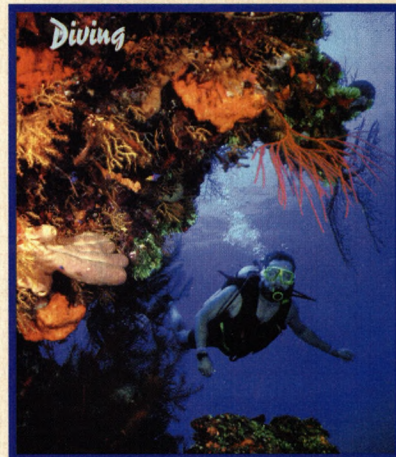
The Resort That Nature Designed

**Natural Comfort,
Natural Class,
Naturally the Best!**



**For Reservations or
Information Call:**

800-227-DIVE



Central America

Scuba Diving

Eco & Adventure Travel

Call us for our Weekly Specials

1-800-443-0717

Fax: 305-666-2292

Internet: bahia@gate.net

Bahia Tours

circle #138 on Reader Service Card

SDM Editors Pick Items That Make Diving Safer, Easier and More Fun!

BY TAMARA COLLINS AND TY SAWYER
PHOTOGRAPHY BY BONNIE J. CARDONE



SEIKO SCUBAMASTER WATCH: This time-piece/dive computer sets a new standard in functionality and size. Amazingly compact and streamlined, the Scubamaster monitors and displays all pertinent dive data—current depth, max depth, average depth, NDL time, dive time, current time, ascent rate (will both beep and display Slow as a rapid ascent warning), surface interval, no fly time and decompression limits. It will keep track of all

EDITORS' PICK OF THE MONTH



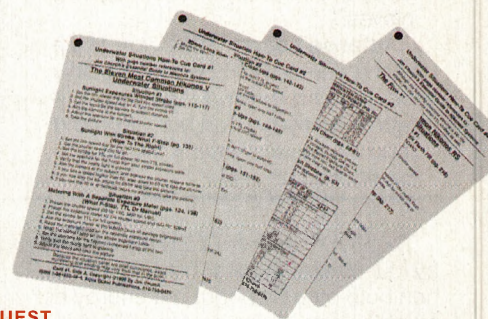
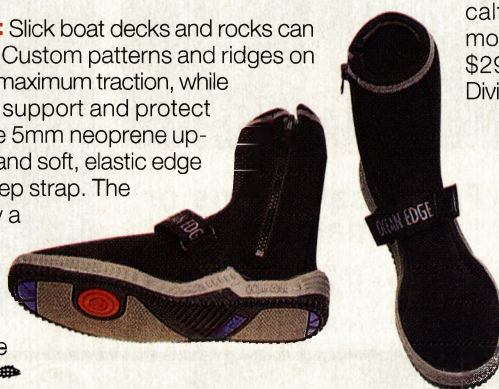
1996 BALBOA DIVE CLUB CALENDAR:

This beautiful calendar features exquisite underwater photographs taken exclusively at popular Panamanian dive sites by club members. Each month's photograph reveals the incredible diversity found in the region and introduces us to a new dive site. Information on the site is given for each photo, including directions, dive profile and possible animal encounters. Technical photographic information and critter descriptions are also provided. \$14.95 (U.S. addresses) or \$18.95 (international). Write to: Balboa Dive Club, Unit 0967, APO AA 34002.



DEEP THOUGHT KNEE PADS: For commercial divers, U/W photographers, urchin divers, cavers, cold water wreck enthusiasts and others, these ultra sturdy kneepads offer you and your wetsuit safety and protection. They are made of solid, textured rubber and double stitched to a slip-on neoprene sleeve. The sleeve is contoured to accommodate the larger muscle groups of the thigh and the smaller muscles of the calf. This ergonomic design provides freedom of movement and a comfortable fit over your wetsuit. \$29.95. For more information call Deep Thought Diving Products at (800) 452-6696.

OCEAN EDGE KEY LARGO BOOTS: Slick boat decks and rocks can now be crossed in confidence. Custom patterns and ridges on the soles of these boots provide maximum traction, while the sturdy, molded rubber will support and protect your feet for years to come. The 5mm neoprene uppers have exterior sewn seams and soft, elastic edge tape and a touch-fastening instep strap. The YKK Delrin zipper is backed by a panel of laminated, waterproof vinyl with an interior of baby plush nylon. The \$65 boots are available in black with gray trim. Call (619) 744-9430 for the address of your nearest dealer.



IDEATIONS SOG PARATOOL:

With the multi-purpose, folding Paratool in your dive bag you will always be prepared. The compact, four inch long (when closed) tool fits into a black nylon pouch. The tool has more than 20 features, including pliers, a wire cutter, rulers, three flathead screwdrivers and a Phillips, two knife blades, a can/bottle opener, file and much more. \$59.95. Need the right tool at the right time to get the job done? Call Ideations at (800) 275-4332 for the location of your nearest dealer.



AQUA QUEST

JIM CHURCH'S NIKONOS CUE CARDS: The knowledge accumulated over years of using a Nikonos camera system has been streamlined onto a set of four plastic cue cards for quick reference U/W. Instructions are listed for 11 situations encountered with the Nikonos V and 5 Nikonos RS situations. Each topic is referenced by page number to Jim Church's *Essential Guide to Nikonos Systems*. Included are steps for fine-tuning and testing TTL, testing exposure meters and charts for U/W guide numbers and exposures. The 5 by 7 inch cards are hole punched and cost \$12.95. You can find them at your local dive center or order direct by calling (800) 933-8989.

repetitive dives and determines NDLs during a 24 hour period before automatically resetting at midnight. The handy dive log mode retains profiles of up to 30 dives in memory. Depth rated to 600 feet, this watch is made from noncorrodible materials. The fashionable design is also suitable for day wear. \$1,000. For information on this spectacular watch/dive computer call (201) 512-3000. 🐟



INNOVATIVE SCUBA CONCEPTS

WRISTKEY: How do you solve two important dilemmas faced by water enthusiasts: What do I do with my keys and how do I retrieve them if lost in the water? Get the WristKey—it floats! Slip the soft, cloth covered buoyant foam cord onto your wrist and attach your keys via the small brass split ring. Now you can dive, snorkel, boat, waterski and jet ski without worry. WristKey is available in pink, green, yellow, blue, purple and black for \$4.50. Call (800) 472-2740 for the name of a dealer in your area. 🐟



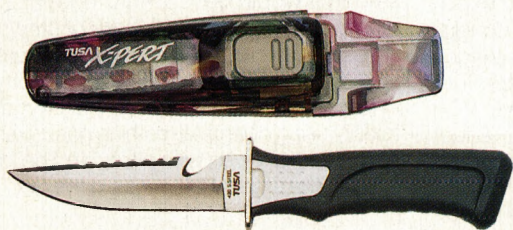
SEAHAWK PRESS U/W ID CARDS: The key to a more memorable and fulfilling dive is the ability to identify the many beautiful and strange residents of the sea. Seahawk Press has 11 identification cards (there are more on the way) with the images and names of fish, invertebrates and seashells from around the world—and you can take them with you underwater. The waterproof, 9½ by 6¼ inch, vinyl laminated cards are hole punched at the top for easy attachment. Each subject is painstakingly drawn in full color from Jerry Greenberg's photographs. The cards can be purchased individually for \$5.50. Fax (305) 667-3572 for the location of your nearest Seahawk dealer. 🐟

LAWRENCE FACTOR C-O-COP CARBON MONOXIDE TESTER: Unsafe levels of an odorless, colorless gas could be present in your scuba tank and you would never know. It is rare, but carbon monoxide has caused diving accidents. C-O-Cop is a compact tester that lets you detect it. The 3¼ by 1½ inch cylinder is convenient to travel with and easy to use. Two models, one designed for a scuba yoke (\$97.50) and the other for an inflator hose (pictured, \$59.95), contain a detector capsule that changes color when exposed to carbon monoxide. The test takes only two minutes. Call (800) 338-5493 for the location of your nearest dealer. 🐟



SEA QUEST HOODED VEST:

When cold currents sweep in from deep waters and you need an extra bit of warmth, reach for this cozy hooded vest. The hood features 6.5mm of neoprene with a 2mm skin-in face seal for a secure fit. The vest is a toasty 3mm that easily fits under your wetsuit. Available in black in sizes from small to extra large. \$73. For information on your nearest dealer call (800) 854-7066. 🐟



TUSA X-PERT KNIFE: The FK800 features a fine honed blade with a serrated upper edge and line cutter. The blade is made of ultra strong and sharp 420J1 stainless steel. The sheath has a quick-release button and comes in several vivid colors. A unique strap and buckle system ensures a snug and comfortable fit. The blade is 4½ inches long; the overall knife length is 9 inches. \$61 for tropical sheath; \$59 for solid colors. For information on your nearest dealer call (310) 498-3708. 🐟

U.S. TECH BACK PACK BAG: Carrying your dive gear and comfort are seldom companions. Even short hauls can be torture with a full complement of weights, wetsuit and equipment. U.S. Tech changes all that with its Deluxe Back Pack Bag. Intelligent styling and padded shoulder straps distribute weight comfortably across your back. There are four outside zippered compartments, one with extra padding for your delicate equipment, providing ample room for all your accessories. The center compartment is a cavernous 27 by 16 by 12 inches. This sturdy bag comes in black with blue, pink or yellow highlights. \$109.95. Call Berry Scuba to order at (800) 621-6019. 🐟



Dive Science Update

BY FRED BOVE, M.D., PH.D.

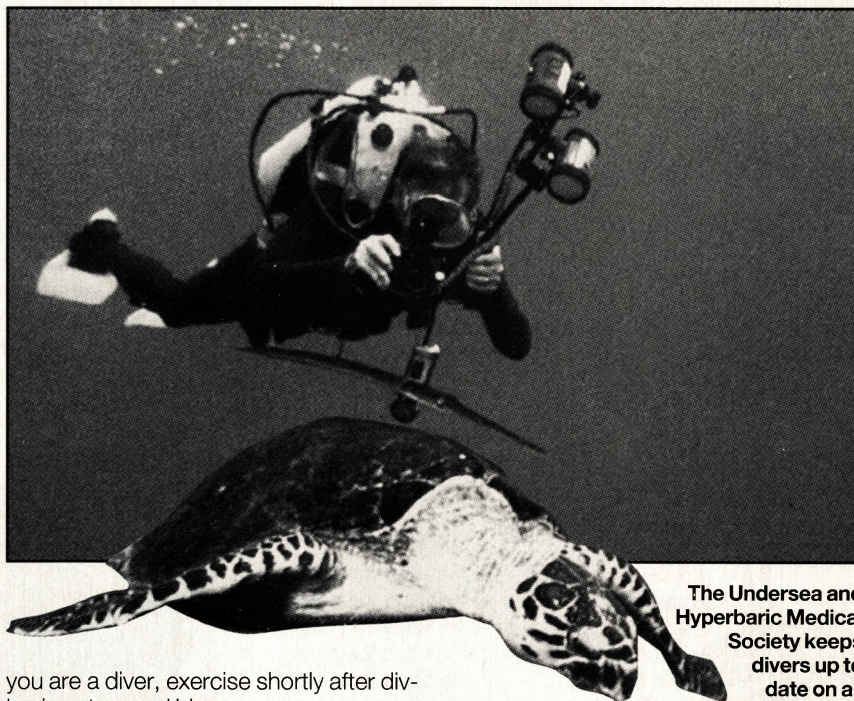
Each June, the Undersea and Hyperbaric Medical Society holds its annual meeting to communicate new information about diving and hyperbaric medicine. At this meeting, many diving scientists, clinicians and other interested individuals gather to present recent research and discuss issues related to these fields.

This year's meeting was preceded by a workshop on asthma and diving. Experts from the USA, Australia and England presented their data and developed guidelines for dealing with divers who have asthma. The consensus was that there are many individuals with asthma who are fully capable of diving safely. A revised policy on asthma and diving will be presented soon. It will allow some asthmatics to dive if they meet specific criteria.

There were a number of papers on mathematical models of gas uptake and washout from tissues during diving. These studies indicate the mathematics of decompression are becoming better understood. The computers used for sport diving will ultimately incorporate these new concepts to make decompression safer.

Among the studies was a paper from scientists at NASA who are concerned with extra-vehicular activity in a space suit. The pressure in the suit is about 4.3 psi absolute. To reduce the risk of DCS, astronauts breathe pure oxygen at one atmosphere pressure in the space shuttle before going into space in the suit. This pre-breathe reduces the total amount of nitrogen in the body and thereby lowers the risk for DCS. The NASA investigators found that exercise during the oxygen pre-breathe reduced the incidence of DCS. They hypothesized from model studies that exercise increased the rate of removal of nitrogen from tissues.

The principles, however, seem to work against divers. In the past, studies of divers exercising after diving showed the risk of DCS increased. Breathing oxygen before a dive will not provide the benefit obtained by an astronaut because excess nitrogen is breathed at increased pressure. This adds back the nitrogen that might have been removed by oxygen breathing pre-dive. The conclusion is: If you are an astronaut going on a space walk, it may be beneficial to exercise while pre-breathing oxygen but if



photo/Bonnie J. Cardone

The Undersea and Hyperbaric Medical Society keeps divers up to date on all the latest health issues.

you are a diver, exercise shortly after diving is not a good idea.

The description of technical diving was provided by several proponents of deep, mixed gas scuba diving. This is usually done by non-professional divers using open circuit scuba with mixtures of nitrogen, helium and oxygen tailored to the depth and dive profile. One concern is with oxygen toxicity. Currently, there are several opinions regarding the maximum safe partial pressure for oxygen exposure. For many years, diving was considered safe if the partial pressure of oxygen was below 1.6 atmospheres absolute (ATA). This would allow an air diver with oxygen at 21 percent to dive to 218 feet but, with nitrox, depth would be limited as shown in the table below.

Recently, safety rules have been modified because of observed seizures with 1.6 ATA of oxygen. A better value is 1.3 ATA. The table indicates safe depths with the 1.3 ATA limit. You can see that air allows a maximum depth of 171 feet, while a nitrox mix limits diving depth to 101 feet or 74 feet depending on the percentage of oxygen in the mix. Commercial divers planning deep dives solve the oxygen problem by using mixes with less oxygen than air. A 16 percent oxygen mix allows safe diving to 235 feet if the 1.3 ATA safety limit is ob-

served. One important aspect of technical diving is that the limits have changed from concern for narcosis and decompression problems to concern for oxygen seizures underwater. Using the oxygen limit of 1.3 ATA, diving with air eliminates concern for oxygen toxicity at depths to 170 feet. For sport divers who want to use nitrox, a very safe limit would be 1.3 ATA. This limit is reasonable considering the risk of drowning associated with an underwater seizure.

This table shows safe maximum depths in feet of seawater (fsw) to avoid oxygen toxicity using different breathing gas mixes. Percentages given with nitrox and heliox indicate the amount of oxygen in the mix.

ATA Oxygen	1.6	1.4	1.3	1.2
	fsw	fsw	fsw	fsw
16% Heliox	297	256	235	215
Air (21%)	218	187	171	156
32% Nitrox	132	111	101	91
40% Nitrox	99	83	74	66

There were several papers where Doppler ultrasound was used to detect
(Continued on Page 66)

 CITIZEN®. HOW THE WORLD TELLS TIME.

Today more people in the world depend on a watch made by Citizen than any other timepiece. Including Don and Helen Flynn, who both rely on a Citizen Aqualand Duplex. They especially appreciate the two large digital windows displaying present depth and elapsed time. A push button can recall maximum depth and water temperature. The Aqualand also has depth and rapid ascent alarms, and is water-resistant to 200 meters. Because Don and Helen need a watch that's as comfortable under the water as they are.



AMERICA'S LEADING JEWELER
Service
MERCHANDISE

FOR THE STORE NEAREST YOU OR MAIL ORDER 1-800-251-1212
ITEMS FEATURED: JP1004-02W & JP1004-02L

Surface Supplied Air

Diving Without A Tank Offers Special Pleasures

BY JOE SINK
PHOTOGRAPHY BY BILL GLEASON

Mention diving in mainstream America and people visualize scuba equipment strapped to a sleek, young body embarking on an exotic adventure. This is understandable considering the great exposure scuba has enjoyed on television and the big screen. As a real or vicarious experience, it certainly appeals to man's desire to escape the mundane and explore new frontiers. Being exposed for years to the Cousteau crew and Sea Hunt's Lloyd Bridges has crystallized the concept, especially for the nondiver. All but excluded from the perception has been snorkeling and Surface Supplied Air (SSA) diving.

Snorkeling, although extremely popular with an estimated 20 million U.S. participants, is generally not thought of as "diving," although most snorkelers engage in some degree of free (breath-hold) diving. Training requirements are minimal and most snorkelers are self-taught.

Surface Supplied Air (SSA) for the recreational diver is gaining in popularity, owing mostly to the professional efforts of at least one manufacturer, Brownie's Third Lung. SSA consists of an air compressor on the surface, either floating or deck mounted, pumping air to two or three divers underwater. The power source is usually a gas engine.

Besides the Surface Air Supply, the only equipment needed is a hose retaining belt, mask, fins and probably a weightbelt. Surface Supplied Air inspires confidence in the users because they know they are always connected to the other diver(s) and to the surface. This gives SSA a significant edge as a family diving alternative.

When considering an SSA unit, the safest bet is to stay with a long established SSA firm that customizes its components. Because there is no SSA industry as such, the shopper has a particular responsibility



Surface Supplied Air consists of a floating (left) or deck mounted compressor that pumps air to divers. It provides a unique underwater experience with minimal equipment worn.

to ask a few meaningful questions. Are the compressor and other components available to anyone or are they custom made for a particular manufacturer? Is diver training a prerequisite to a purchase? Is the unit easy to tow?

In this instance, having a limited choice of manufacturers works to your advantage as your search will also be limited.

In many respects, SSA is closely related to snorkeling. It is almost as if the air hose from the compressor is an extended snorkel tube. The difference is that depth can be varied according to the performance of the compressor. Training is required because it most certainly is compressed air (just like that in a scuba tank) the user will be breathing.

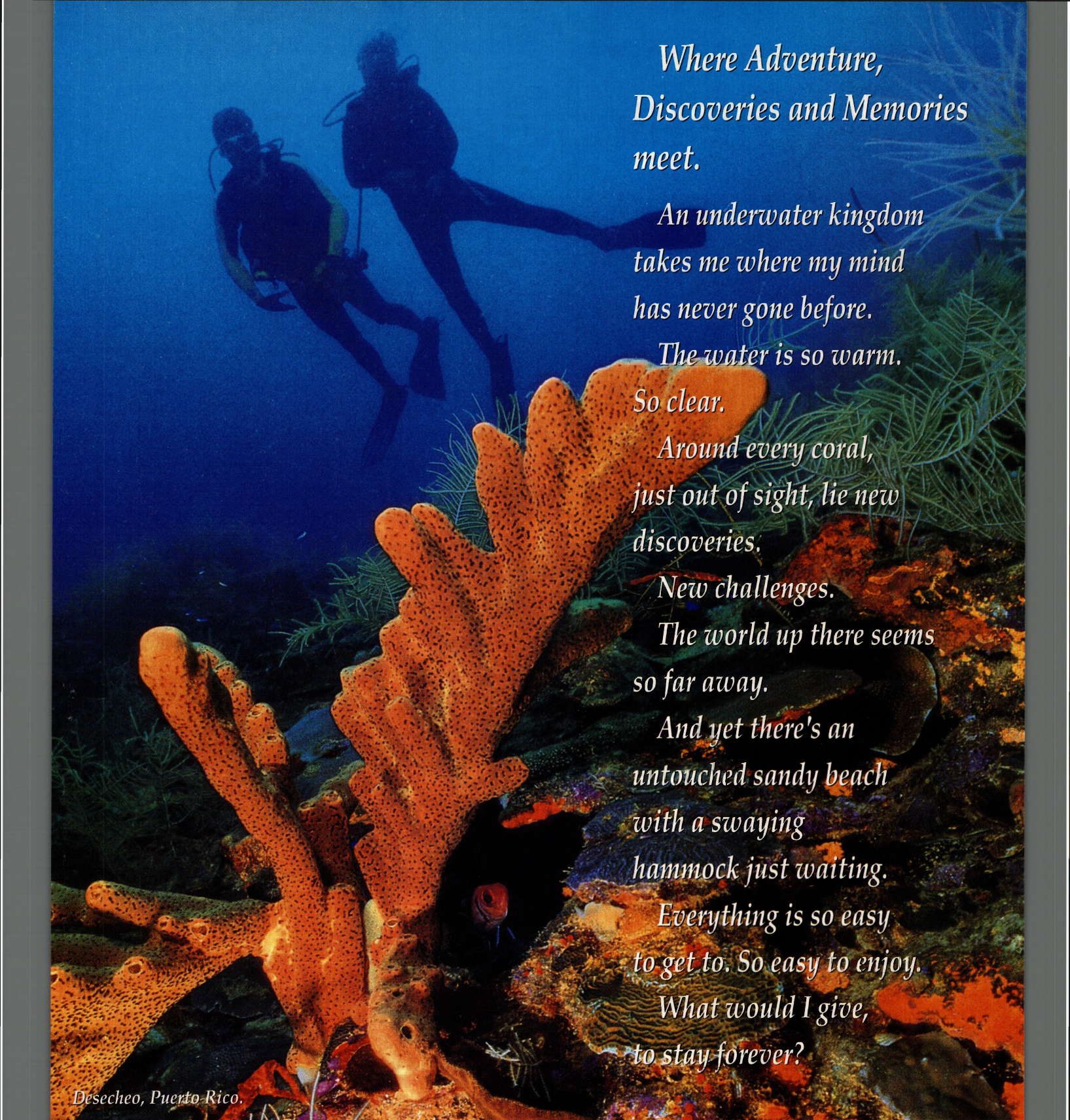
Considering that the basic training is identical, the transition from SSA to scu-

ba is a natural progression for those who wish to go further.

On its own, SSA may well be the appropriate goal for vast numbers of diving hopefuls. Coming to mind are seniors and juniors who perhaps cannot—or would prefer not—to deal with what they perceive to be the more cumbersome scuba. Inactive scuba divers who don't feel comfortable re-entering the sport because of time-eroded confidence levels and outdated gear are finding SSA an agreeable compromise.

SSA is, in many cases, a better choice than scuba because of its ease and inherent safety. There are some disadvantages to be sure. Deep diving, cave diving and ice diving are out. Only limited wreck penetration is possible. But, cruising a shallow reef with a friend or your family, almost divested of gear and with almost unlimited air (although the dive tables still apply), certainly conjures up images even Jacques or Lloyd would enjoy!

For more information on Surface Supplied Air, contact Brownie's Third Lung at 940 N.W. 1st Street, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33311; (800) 327-0412 or (305) 462-5570. 🐠

A vibrant underwater photograph showing two divers in the upper left, swimming over a large, orange, branching coral structure in the foreground. The water is clear blue, and various other coral and small fish are visible in the background.

*Where Adventure,
Discoveries and Memories
meet.*

*An underwater kingdom
takes me where my mind
has never gone before.*

*The water is so warm.
So clear.*

*Around every coral,
just out of sight, lie new
discoveries.*

*New challenges.
The world up there seems
so far away.*

*And yet there's an
untouched sandy beach
with a swaying
hammock just waiting.*

*Everything is so easy
to get to. So easy to enjoy.*

*What would I give,
to stay forever?*

Desecheo, Puerto Rico.

Discover what a vacation was always meant to be.

PUERTO RICO

For additional information, call your travel agent or: 1-800-866-7827

circle #164 on Reader Service Card

Discover the Continent of Puerto Rico.

Right here in the U.S.A.

*Only Puerto Rico puts so many vacation
experiences within your reach.*

The Bluntnose Sixgill

(*Hexanchus griseus*)



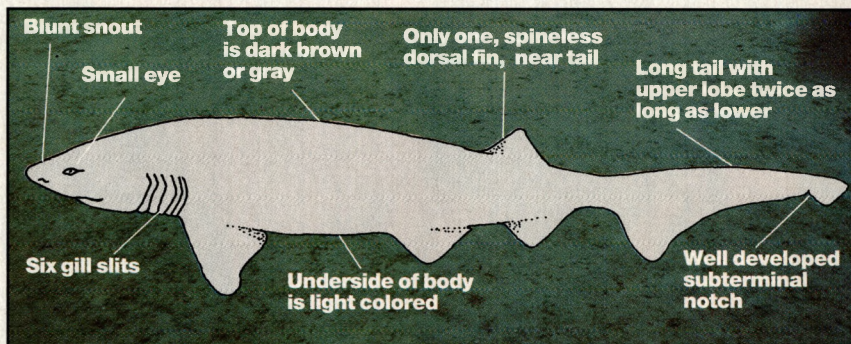
BY BONNIE J. CARDONE
PHOTOGRAPH BY RON AKESON

Some sharks are easier to identify than others. If you are diving in Barkley Sound, off Vancouver Island, Canada and a huge shark materializes in the emerald green waters, you can be almost certain you're looking at a Bluntnose Sixgill. Big sharks of other species are simply not seen here. (Although the slightly smaller Broadnose Sevengill (*Notorynchus cepedianus*), is also reported from these waters.) The Broadnose is thought to reach lengths of 12 feet while the Bluntnose may be more than 15½ feet long.

Hexanchus griseus' common name describes it well. It does have a blunt nose and six gills. It is one of only four sharks with six gills; with the exception of two with seven gills, all other sharks have five.

Of course, if a huge shark heads your way, counting its gill slits is unlikely to be your primary focus—luckily, the sixgill has other distinctive features to help identify it.

The Bluntnose is a member of the order Hexanchiformes. According to *Sharks in Question: The Smithsonian Answer Book*, these are "...sharks primitive in form...bearing resemblance to ancient, extinct species...." The Bluntnose is further a member of the Hexanchidae family. Known as the Cow Sharks, this family is comprised solely of the Bluntnose and the Bigeyed Sixgill (*H. vitulus*). The Cow Sharks are heavy bodied fishes with a small anal fin and only one dorsal fin (instead of two), well back on the body near the tail. The tail is long. The upper lobe is more than twice as long as the



lower lobe and has a well developed subterminal notch. The teeth in the lower jaw are very unusual, resembling saw blades. The Bluntnose has small eyes and there is no nictitating lower eyelid. Overall the shark is dark gray or brown with a lighter underside.

According to the *FAO Species Catalogue: Sharks of the World*, the Bluntnose Sixgill is "Wide ranging in temperate and tropical seas." It is found from the surface "to at least 1,875 meters." The juveniles stay close to shore. Adults are deepwater fishes, rarely seen in less than 90 feet of water. At night the sharks come closer to the surface to feed. This is "a sluggish but strong-swimming shark...." (*FAO Species Catalogue*.)

While rarely seen in most of its range, the Bluntnose Sixgill is not uncommon from June through August off British Columbia, Canada. Ron Akesson photographed the Bluntnose Sixgill shown here in 90 feet of water off Tyler Rock in Barkley Sound, Vancouver Island.

The Bluntnose feeds on a variety of marine life, including fish, squid, crabs,

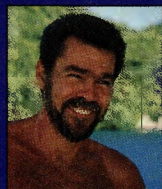
The Bluntnose Sixgill resembles primitive sharks and is one of only four species with six gills, almost all other sharks have five.

shrimp, seals, other sharks and even carrion. It is ovoviparous; the young develop in eggs in the womb and then are born live. Litters are large, 108 pups were counted in one.

Although the juveniles "will snap when captured" (*FAO Species Catalogue*), adult Bluntnose Sixgills are not considered aggressive. However, they apparently do not like to be touched. In an article in the September 1984 issue of *SKIN DIVER* (Six Gill Shark: A Primeval Visitor from the Abyss), author Jeff Mariave recounted several instances in which divers touched sixgills, either accidentally or on purpose. The sharks reacted by wheeling around and confronting the divers. Mariave said these incidents suggest "the sixgill will not attack without real provocation but it will not ignore taunts."

As one Responsible Diver slogan points out, "Only fools stretch the rules!" 🦈

Upon
The Sea
The
Waves
Dance
Beyond
The Sea
And
Its Waves
The Sun
Rises
As
The Sun
Rises
The Wind
Begins To
Dance
Across
The Sea
Creating
A Wave
Beneath
The Sea
We
Celebrate
Nature's
Beauty

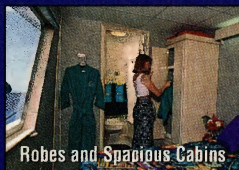


Our Dancer Fleet Liveboards Are Setting The World Standard For Dive Adventure!

Our divers often ask us,
"What will Peter think of next?"



Morning Coffee Service



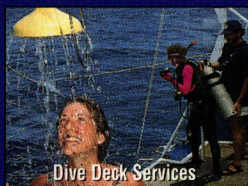
Robes and Spacious Cabins



Sit-down Dining Service



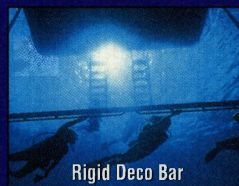
Fully Stocked Boutique



Dive Deck Services



Photography Conveniences



Rigid Deco Bar

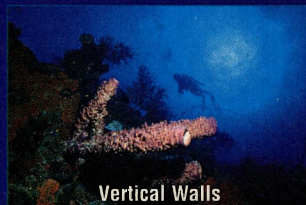


Room to Relax

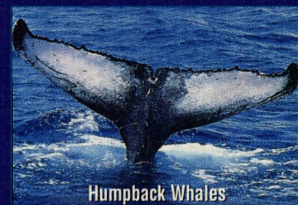
But we know that a liveboard is only as good as
the diving that it gets you to...



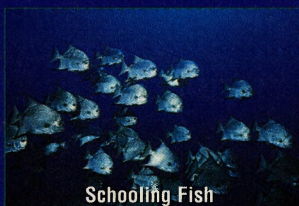
Turks & Caicos Islands



Vertical Walls



Humpback Whales



Schooling Fish



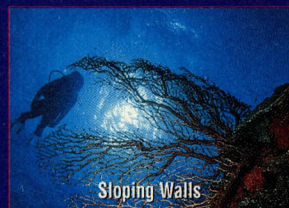
Sea Mounts



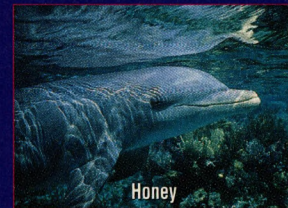
Bay Islands, Honduras



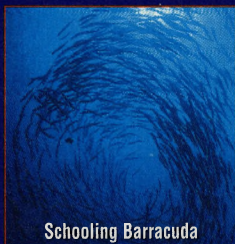
Belize, Central America



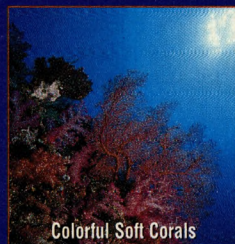
Sloping Walls



Honey



Schooling Barracuda



Colorful Soft Corals



Palau, Micronesia



(305) 669-9391

1-800-9DANCER

1-800-932-6237

(305) 669-9475 Fax

6851 Yumuri Street • Suite 10 • Coral Gables, Florida 33146

Video Brochures Available

Internet Address: <http://www.winnet.net/dancer/>

Photography Credits: S. Cummings, S. Frink, B. Gleason, C. Platts, D. Ring, E. Strachan, L. Usie, S. Vanderbilt ©1996
circle #94 on Reader Service Card



Dive Prep for Under-Ice Excursions

TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHY BY JEANNE BEAR SLEEPER

As with climbing Mount Everest, some things you just have to do because they are there. Personal accomplishment, the thrill of success and a collection of great stories come with accepting challenges—and ice diving is a challenge! This month's article will cover dive preparation; next month's column will take you ice diving.

Think of ice diving as taking away the usual question, "What's the water temperature?" and replacing it with, "What's the wind chill?" You know what it's going to feel like underwater, the harder part is keeping your topside support crew warm and dry. These people are your lifelines to the surface.

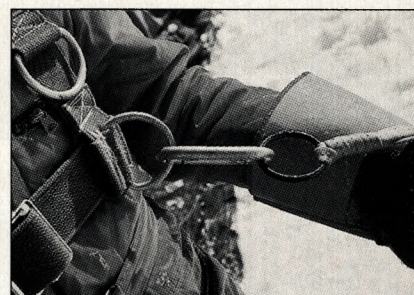
Most scuba diving is a personal sport and most dives are made in buddy pairs. Ice diving is a team activity; it takes many people to prepare the site, tend lines, stand by as safety divers and haul gear. There is a camaraderie that develops among the group as everyone works, dives and waits together.

Great memories seem to come from ice dives. I remember the time my damp boots froze to the surface ice while I was waiting my turn to dive and when we hooked some ice fishing lines together and watched two old guys battle for the "big one." Then there was the time a line tender was worried about the end of the safety line coming loose so he tied it to the bumper of a truck, which someone else tried to drive away. The diver was pretty surprised when his safety line snapped taut and started pulling him rapidly through the water! And, there was the time we heated so much water on the camp stove inside the warmup tent that the moisture in the air froze to the walls. When we removed the poles to take the tent down, it remained standing!

Ice diving is a way for northern divers to enjoy the sport close to home all year. Even if you can't travel to warm water locations, you can get wet during more of the year. Most ice dives are in freshwater lakes. After the algae dies off and the water is no longer stirred up by waves, swimmers and boaters, the visibility usually increases dramatically. Lakes that have five foot visibility in the summer could have 100 foot visibility in the winter. The fish, seldom seen in the



Lace-on crampons provide sure footing on slippery ice.



Above: Ice divers wear a harness that allows them to be tethered to the surface. Below: Ice diving is a challenging specialty that demands a team effort.

summer, are in a "slowed state" and easier to view in the cold winter water. If you are only used to seeing small Sunfish, be prepared for big Muskies, Pike or Gar.

Another reason to ice dive is to see parts of a lake that are not normally accessible. In the winter, you can often drive your car across the ice and park next to the dive site. It is fun to explore sites known to be part of the historic fur trader routes. Incredible artifacts, from knives and pottery to animal traps, can be found. More modern artifacts include glass soda and medicine bottles.

Ice diving expands many of your skills, from researching fur trader routes to identifying different species of fish; advanced equipment use, divemastering, planning a group activity and adapting to cold weather conditions. As with other "closed ceiling" diving such as cave and wreck diving, planning plays a much bigger role than during a summer shore dive. Your life depends upon your dive planning, safety systems and equipment. Participating in ice diving accelerates your leadership skills.

PLANNING

Ice diving may add new dimensions to your usual dive trip planning. Since extensive special equipment and a number of divers are required, you need to find a club, dive store or group of ice divers. Once you locate the support team, training can begin. Some instructors offer formal ice diving specialty certification courses, while others teach more informally. This is no time to bluff about your diving experience. If you have only used a wetsuit and plan to use a drysuit, you will want to begin by taking a "how to use a drysuit" class. Try the suit in a pool and open water, if possible, before using it with the other new gear in the ice.

Show your open water equipment to an experienced ice diver and ask him/her for suggestions on what needs to be modified or upgraded. Your regulator is critical to life support and some perform better than others in cold, deep or high demand situations. You may need to purchase or rent a new regulator before ice diving. If you plan to rent a drysuit, be sure you can find one that fits properly. An ill-fitting drysuit that leaks is agonizing; the

under garments soak up the water and the drysuit fills with ice cold water.

EVALUATING ICE

Ice diving is seldom done close to shore since the water is too shallow. This is often a hard-learned lesson. One sub-zero day we spent two hours cutting through 16 inches of ice to find about three feet of water. No one felt it would be safe or fun, since the visibility would go to zero when the soft silt bottom was disturbed. That ended our diving day, since we did not have the time or energy to start over. The guy who picked the spot got to buy lunch for everyone on the way home.

Getting to the middle of the lake and deeper water can be a challenge. Some lakes have boat launch ramps, which become car lanes as divers and fishermen drive out on the ice. Depending upon the amount of snow, the family sedan or a four wheel drive vehicle may be appropriate. Most insurance companies frown on claims for vehicles that fall through the ice, so be sure the ice will support your vehicle before venturing out.

There is no fixed rule on how many inches of ice will support a vehicle, because ice can be rock solid or honey-combed with holes. Each supports a different amount of weight. Walk out a short way and use an ice auger to drill a small hole. If the ice is clear white-blue and sol-

id, it is strong. A Minnesota weatherman used to say that four inches of solid ice should support a car but he waited until it was close to six inches before he drove his car on the lake. If the ice has layers of clear ice followed by honeycomb layers of snow, it will not support as much weight and you should be very cautious. Other factors that affect ice thickness and strength are the distance from shore (ice is thicker closer to shore) and the presence of any moving water (ice is thinner over moving water). Moving water is obviously hidden, so you will need to use deductive reasoning. Is there a bridge over a nearby stream? Is the lake spring fed? Where is the source? Is there a storm pipe dumping into the lake? Do lakeside homeowners have septic tanks that are leaching warm water? Moving water erodes the ice from the bottom, creating weak spots. You can be walking along on what seems like solid ice, suddenly step on a weak spot covered by snow and fall through.

Cracks in the ice are not necessarily indicators of weakness. Ice is constantly moving from contraction and expansion through the day's temperature changes. Wind pushes ice around. The colder it is, the more ice and snow squeaks as you walk. On ultra cold days, the ice has a brittle sound as fine cracks naturally appear. This does not mean you are about

to fall through but it can be unnerving.

If ice fishing is popular, many local news shows will feature an ice index. They professionally evaluate the ice, knowing people are itching to drag their ice houses out and start fishing. The news will give an "all clear" for area lakes, meaning it's safe to traverse by vehicle.

Remember these are only rules of thumb. You drive or walk on ice at your own risk.

SPECIALIZED TOOLS

The following is a list of special support equipment you will need to ice dive. Many clubs have these items, some of which are hard to find or expensive.

ICE AUGER: Used to drill a test hole for ice quality or the corner hole for a saw that will cut the main hole.

ICE SAW: Used to cut a triangular hole for entering the water. A three-sided hole is less work to cut than one with four sides. An antique ice saw, such as those used to cut ice for great-grandma's ice box, works fantastic but these relics are hard to find. A chain saw with a long blade will work as long as you do not flood it. Ice slush sticks to the chain and throws it back at the engine, which can cause the motor to die. Chain saws are prone to mechanical failure (under normal circumstances) and the cold and water make it

(Continued on Page 50)

Princess Beach Resort & Casino... A Crowne Plaza Resort



Where Land And Sea Come Together In Curaçao



Peter-Hughes Diving INC.

(305) 669-9391

1-800-9DANCER
1-800-932-6237

(305) 669-9475 Fax

6851 Yumuri Street • Suite 10 • Coral Gables, Florida 33146 • Internet Address: <http://www.winnet.net/dancer/>

Photography Credits: L. Kleine, M. Nelson ©1996



Jean-Michel Cousteau's World

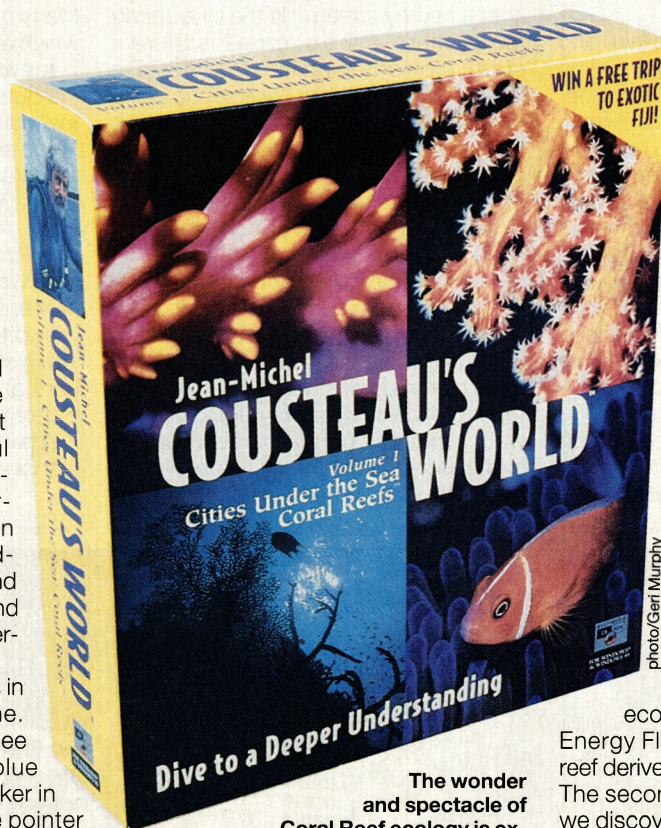
Engaging Interface and Spectacular Graphics Highlight First CD in Series

BY TY SAWYER

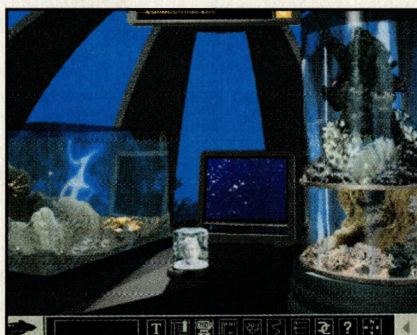
I have seen the life essence of many subjects fall victim to technology. This is not so with *Volume 1* (of a series of seven) of *Jean-Michel Cousteau's World, Cities Under the Sea: Coral Reefs*. The poetry of the sea and the whimsy of its inhabitants is not lost, but rather benefits, from CD-ROM technology. Jean-Michel Cousteau, in association with Interactive Video, Inc., have seamlessly integrated a full 80 minutes of stunning live action video, hundreds of elegant photographs and a thoughtful narrative with an ingenious computer generated graphical interface. This draws our attention away from the typical text-and-snapshot learning experience and immerses us in the wonderful and exciting world of interactive undersea exploration.

The computer journey begins in an innovative virtual submarine. Through the view window we see an expanse of coral reef and blue ocean. Inside the sub, lights flicker in readiness. We pass the mouse pointer over seven lab icons on the console before us and the name of the corresponding lab appears just above the icon. Each undersea laboratory deals with a different aspect of reef ecology. The symbols on the icons are cleverly intuitive and direct. When we click on an icon the soft purr of a computer voice informs us of our destination and off we go. As we pilot the sub from lab to lab various creatures silently pass before us on the coral reef; a turtle, a ray, a school of brightly colored fish. A dome shaped lab with viewing windows appears just over a coral head and we dock with a solid metallic clank.

Inside the lab there is a monitor, several aquariums and a hologram of Jean-Michel; we can see the coral reef through the windows in the background. As we pass our pointer over the various objects the pointer changes shape (into a fish, of course) and the associated topic appears at the top of the screen.



The wonder and spectacle of Coral Reef ecology is explored via seven undersea labs (Connections lab below) in this highly interactive and illuminating CD-ROM.



We are ready to click and explore. The best place to start in each lab is with Jean-Michel. Click on his image and he introduces the ecological theme of the lab with his characteristic passion for the sea, easy manner and intelligence.

Jean-Michel is tireless in his desire to enlighten mankind about the undersea world and imparts his knowledge like a wise professor.

After Jean-Michel, we explore the several topics associated with the focus of the lab. Each topic begins with a topic page. This is either a video clip or a slide show accompanied by insightful narration and music. These aren't short shrifted video clips or slide shows, by the way. They show the animal fully interacting in the environment, clearly illustrating the topic or behavior. Following the topic page there are usually 3-D graphics, slide shows or photographs with more in-depth textual information.

Each lab has a primary ecological focus. The first studies Energy Flow; explaining how the coral reef derives energy, or fuel, from the sun. The second lab is entitled Cycles. Here we discover how every plant and animal is integrated into the lifecycle of the reef community. The Living Communities lab explores the intricacies of cooperation and competition among the creatures of the reef ecosystem. The Biodiversity lab illustrates the mechanics of diversity and how these distinct elements are all critical to the survival of the ecosystem. The key to survival for many creatures (both as hunter and hunted) are depicted in the Adaptations lab; ingenious camouflage, various poisons or toxins and vivid warning colors. The Change and Evolution lab reveals an undersea world in flux, always changing to maintain an ecological balance and evolving to adapt to the changes that invariably occur. Some creatures make it, some don't. Find out why. The final lab is Connections. Made evident is that all life on the reef is interconnected—including those who use the reef for food. The possible catastrophic results of mismanagement and

overuse are also explored.

Throughout the journey we are accompanied by the Personal Diving Assistant (PDA). This is a menu bar at the bottom of the screen containing several icons: Text; Bookmark; Glossary (important word definitions); Preferences (for maintaining sound, sub speed and background effects); Phyla (illustrating scientific classification); Trail (a list of the places you've visited); Index; Links (related topics); Help; and Navigation.

At the end of the journey we are on


MINIMUM SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

- IBM PC or compatible
- 486SX-33MHz processor or better
- 8 MB RAM
- 5.4 MB hard disk space available
- 640x480 display with 256 colors
- Double speed CD-ROM drive
- MS Windows 3.1 or later or Windows 95
- Sound card supported by MS Windows
- Mouse

intimate terms with the intriguing and efficient coral reef. We have seen 80 minutes of video, 700 breathtaking photographs and interactively explored virtually every nook and cranny of this fascinating ecological world. We have also seen mankind's effects on the reef and have a deeper understanding of its value and our need to protect it.

Now that we've navigated through the seven labs we can jump over to the Hot Topics game and immediately apply what we've learned. Time for some critical thinking here. Oloro, an imaginary island, wants to save its reefs and improve its economy. We must weigh the merits of Ecotourism versus Aquaculture and chose the strongest arguments on both sides. We score by discovering what's truly important to both views.

As Jean-Michel says, "The study of coral reefs helps us understand how to preserve our own world for future generations. *Cities Under the Sea* captures the wonder and spectacle of a reef, yet it also provides clues on how we can live better with our environment."

Cities Under the Sea: Coral Reefs, is an engaging, intelligently organized CD-ROM with rewarding, gorgeous material and superior production values. It is recommended for all levels of users and is attractively priced at \$49.95. For ordering information write to: Interactive, Inc., Customer Service, 110 West 40th Street, New York, NY 10018; or phone (800) 591-6100, (212) 221-6559 or fax (212) 730-6045. 

Why Don Foster's Dive Cayman?

FUN!

Whether you're a seasoned diver, just got certified or are looking for a premier training facility, **Don Foster's** is the place. The staff is professional, but they still know how to make things fun and exciting. Let **Don Foster's** handle your next dive vacation and all you'll have to do is relax and enjoy the spectacular views.



Condo Pkg
\$915
7 Nights
5 Days Diving



Dive with The Pros!

1-800-83-DIVER

or (214) 722-2535 • FAX (214) 722-6511

DON FOSTER'S DIVE CAYMAN

Royal Palms and Radisson Resort on Seven Mile Beach
P.O. Box 151, George Town, Grand Cayman



circle #64 on Reader Service Card

Scubapro SeaHawk

A Brawny Technical BC with a Smart Integrated Weight System

So, you've explored the sunlit shallows, kelp forests and coral gardens and enjoyed the colorful schools of fish. Are you tempted to try new frontiers, wreck or perhaps cave dives? Then you need a BC with a little something extra. Scubapro's SeaHawk has the right stuff. Tough materials and a tremendous lift capacity promise superior strength and support, while ample pockets and multiple gear attachment spots let you pile on the accessories. You may think rugged abundance comes at the expense of comfort but take a closer look and you will find padding and adjustments galore. The clincher? The simplicity and freedom of movement inherent in the SeaHawk's integrated weight system.

CONSTRUCTION

The SeaHawk's modular design makes it a very versatile system. The harness is offered in four sizes, small through extra large, accommodating divers weighing between 115 and 300 pounds. You can buy the harness and aircell assembled or, if you need an aircell with extra lift capacity, as separate modular units. The aircell and harness can be assembled easily at home, making upgrade or replacement simple. A sturdy, Delrin YKK zipper attaches the aircell to the harness at the shoulders; the backpack is bolted on; and two, adjustable, elastic quick-release straps secure the aircell to the harness under the arms. The buoyancy capacity of this back flotation BC is astounding. You can choose 32 or 48 pounds of lift in the small size; the other sizes offer 48 or a whopping 72 pounds of lift capacity.

The rigorous environment and weight demands of technical divers warrant tough, sturdy materials and construction in addition to lift. The SeaHawk's outer surfaces are 840 denier nylon packcloth; the interior is 420 denier. The edges of

BY TAMARA L. COLLINS
PHOTO BY BONNIE J. CARDONE



An ergonomic harness, interchangeable aircells, integrated weight system and numerous attachment points make the SeaHawk ideally suited for technical divers.

the material are radio frequency welded to provide a solid, reliable seal and then finished with nylon edge tape for comfort.

Comfort and support were foremost in the minds of the SeaHawk's designers. Padding is generously used throughout the shoulder straps, cummerbund and lumbar support pad and adjustments can be made to the shoulder straps and cummerbund for a tailored fit.

The shoulder straps—ergonomically designed to cradle the upper portion of the back—can be worn in one of two ways: as a suspension or quick-release system. The suspension system (achieved by threading the male half of the quick-release buckle through the webbing strip at

the bottom of the shoulder strap) allows the arm holes to widen by a few inches when the buckle is unclipped but the straps will not separate completely. If your preference is to have the straps separate, release the buckle from the webbing strip.

This system will allow easier donning of the BC if you have a wrist-mounted computer.

Adjustments to the shoulder straps are made by lengthening or shortening the nylon webbing threaded through the Delrin quick-release buckle. A chest strap, with a double adjustment, quick-release buckle, adds further support. The height of the backpack assembly can be set and the cummerbund can be adjusted to provide a firm, comfortable support system around your waist. The cummerbund is secured in the front with a wide touch-fastening strip. A double adjustment, quick-release buckle holds it firmly in place.

Venting the SeaHawk is easily done in any position. There is one overpressure relief/dump valve on the right shoulder and one on the lower right side. The valves will automatically vent excess overpressure but you can also vent air manually. The upper valve has a remote pull cord that is held in place on the chest by a fabric covered nylon tube.

The hard plastic backpack provides excellent tank support. The two pieces are bolted together through the aircell and there are two slots for the wide webbing of the Super Cinch 2 tank band. The length of the tank band is easy to adjust with a touch-fastening strip. A stainless steel D-ring and buckle assembly secures the band to the tank and there is a rubber pad to prevent slippage. The Super Cinch can accommodate all tank sizes. A Bibo Kit is available (\$64) for mounting twin tanks (excluding 95s).

An exciting option for the tank band assembly is counterweight pockets. Placed on either side of the tank, the mesh pockets hold one, 5.5 pound

(Continued on Page 124)

You may only get One Chance

make sure you have the right tools!

Ikelite has the right tools to make your underwater photographic experience fun and rewarding.



AQUASHOT II

The Aquashot II is so simple and inexpensive you won't believe the beautiful results it can produce. Simply load the Aquashot II with a 35mm Kodak or Fuji single-use camera and all you have to do is point and shoot. Oh yes, you do have to turn on the flash and advance the film, but that is as technical as it gets.

NIKONOS N5 TRAY

Ikelite's New N5 Tray was designed exclusively for the Nikonos V. The compact design makes the N5 Tray an integral part of the camera with two strobe mounting points located underneath to reduce width. The N5 Tray incorporates a Velcro strap and rubber handle for comfort and security.

RAPID ADVANCE LEVER

Ikelite's Rapid Advance installs over the Nikonos V folding film advance lever, making film advancement fast and easy.

TTL SLAVE

Ikelite's TTL Slave Sensor turns any Ikelite Substrobe into a true TTL slave, operates up to 50 feet from the primary strobe, plus eliminates the need for a second cumbersome sync cord.



QUICK GRIP ARMS

Ikelite's Quick Grip Arms offer all the features of a ball-socket arm system, plus the added advantage of a quick release handle. Removable at the push of a button, the contoured rubber grip offers easy one hand control of the strobe.

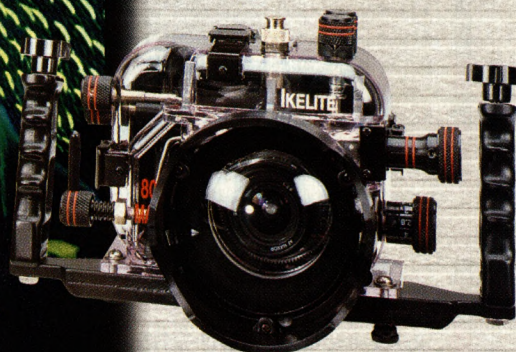
SUBSTROBES

Designed and built in the USA for both the professional and amateur photographer, Ikelite offers 6 models of underwater strobes to meet different needs and budgets. The Substrobe 50 is the brightest and fastest recycling strobe in its class. The Ai offers variable output and angle of coverage. The 150 and 300 are the choice of pros the world over. All Ikelite Substrobes are covered by a two year limited warranty supported by a proven commitment to service unmatched in the industry worldwide.



SLR-AF HOUSINGS

Choose the housing that affords full underwater use of your favorite 35mm camera, be it Nikon, Canon, Minolta or Pentax. There is not another housing at any price that will produce better photographic results or provide greater security underwater than an Ikelite SLR housing.



VIDEO HOUSINGS

Ikelite offers a full range of video housings for Sony and JVC. Most housings include dome port, wide angle lens, video-eye magnifier, top-handle, and quick-release base. Clear housings offer visual inspection of sealing surfaces and complete monitoring of camera and all functions. Add Ikelite's Pro Video-Lite II to capture the stunning colors of the marine world.

ikelite
USA
UNDERWATER SYSTEMS
50 W 33rd Street
Indianapolis, IN 46208
317.923.4523

For additional information contact your local Dive Shop.

circle #128 on Reader Service Card



Something very different in Bonaire

At SAND DOLLAR, you will notice something very different for a dive resort - condos. Bonaire, in the Dutch Caribbean, has long been known as one of the world's top dive destinations, and now you can dive with the premier dive resort on Bonaire. Everything at SAND DOLLAR is centrally located, right on the dock. The dive store, photo and video facility, guest equipment storage and restaurant are in one convenient location at

the resort! SAND DOLLAR DIVE & PHOTO is simply unparalleled in the Caribbean for convenience and ease of diving. Relax and watch a sunset in the open air GREEN PARROT restaurant. Then enjoy a studio, 1, 2 or 3-bedroom oceanfront condo, fully furnished, with air-conditioned bedrooms, large living areas, cable TV, full kitchens and private balconies. Call for complete family vacation packages and ask about our kids program - the **SAND PENNY CLUB!**



SAND DOLLAR CONDOMINIUM RESORT

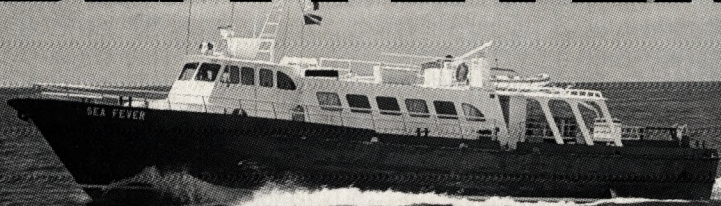
Bonaire's Premier Dive Resort

RESERVATIONS: 1-800-288-4773 OR 407-774-9292, BONAIRE: 599-7-8738

© 1996 SAND DOLLAR RESORT/CLINE

circle #96 on Reader Service Card

SEA FEVER



Catch It Now!

Blue Holes, Shark Feeding, Dolphin Encounters, Rays & More!

Captain Tom Guarino's 24 years experience promises the best of Bahamas diving. Sea Fever is 90' aluminum, fully air conditioned with double staterooms, E-6 processing and U/W video.

FOR INFORMATION AND RESERVATIONS, CALL:

800-443-3837 or 305-531-3483

P. O. Box 39 8276, Miami Beach, Florida 33239

© SD/AD 1995

VIKING SPORT DRYSUIT HOSE ASSEMBLY RECALL

Trelleborg Viking, Inc., Portsmouth, New Hampshire, has announced the voluntary recall of all Viking Sport Drysuit Air Inlet Hose Assemblies purchased by consumers in North America between January 1, 1982 and March 31, 1988 (the subject hose assembly). A potentially hazardous problem may exist with the seating of the subject hose assembly to the air inlet valve that may result in free flow of air into the dry divesuit. If this occurs during a dive, use of the subject hose assembly could be dangerous to the safety of the diver.

All consumers owning or having use of the subject hose assemblies are warned not to dive with such hose assemblies. Failure to heed this warning may result in serious injury or death to the user. Trelleborg Viking will replace all subject hose assemblies at no cost to the owner.

Subject hose assemblies will either have no marking at all or will have a combination marking consisting of letters and numbers, the first of which will be "A," "B" or "C," and the second will be a letter from "A" through "L." There will be a third number or letter in this marking sequence but this is not of concern for this identification. The marking will appear on the end of the subject hose assembly at the point of connection into the first stage regulator.

For further information please call the Trelleborg Viking, Inc. hotline at (800) 344-4458. Outside Canada and the U.S. call Trelleborg/Viking Sweden at 46-411-67940.



Visit the
Florida Keys in the
February
issue
of Skin Diver

One Call Does It All!
1-800-BOB-SOTO



**SUPER
SAVER**
Air-Land-Dive
Packages

Have a Love Affair...

WITH THE CAYMAN ISLANDS!

Let the diving professionals at Bob Soto's Diving make your vacation a memorable experience. Since 1957, we have been on the leading edge of resort diving and are proud that our repeat divers rank us Number One in friendly, professional customer service. Enjoy diving our spectacular walls and plentiful reefs. Experience world-famous Stingray City.

Let one of our dive travel reservationists assist you in selecting the air-land-dive package that best meets your needs. We offer a variety of diving programs and an assortment of hotel and condo accommodations.

For those looking for special savings, packages including accommodations, 2-tank dives every full day, one night dive, unlimited shore diving, airport transfers and round trip airfare on Cayman Airways begin at **ONLY \$399 p/p**

**P.O. Box 1801 Grand Cayman, B.W.I.
(809) 949-2022 • Fax (809) 949-8731**



The American Express Card - The Official Card
of The Cayman Islands and Bob Soto's Diving

circle #437 on Reader Service Card



At Sunset House only one thing stands between you and Unlimited Diving.

You can dive right off our foreshore or from one of our 7 first-class dive boats.

The only thing to hold you back are dive tables.

DIVE TABLES
SURFACE INTERVAL TABLES

Warning! These are not real Dive Tables and should not be used under any circumstances.

Diving back home will never be quite the same after you've become a Sunset Diver.



Or, if you prefer, your computer.

And if you're not already a qualified diver, our great staff includes a team of experienced instructors to get you started right.

Sunset House is also home to the famous Cathy Church Photo Centre.

For more details call 809-949 7111 or toll-free from the US on 1-800 854 4767.

Or write PO Box 479, Grand Cayman, BWI for our special rates for novice and experienced divers. **CIW&A**

SUNSET HOUSE
Grand Cayman's Hotel For Divers By Divers

Ocean Guide

A New Name for Quality and Service

BY JIM WALKER

PHOTOGRAPHY BY BONNIE J. CARDONE

A company dedicated to providing high quality products and customer-friendly service is bound to grow fast. Sometimes, however, that growth can occur in an unexpected direction. Such is the case with Ocean Guide. Entering the market about six years ago, the company focused primarily on general watersport equipment. But that soon became limiting, as the market practically demanded an expansion into diving gear. The change in direction was gradual, as the company wanted to ensure only the highest quality products were provided. First, there were masks, snorkels and fins. Then, about a year and a half ago, BCs and a regulator. Now there are wetsuits and a wide range of colorful, diverse dive gear and accessories, with more items being added all the time.

As you'll soon discover, the range of Ocean Guide dive equipment is extensive, offering colors, features, styles and sizes to suit a variety of individual tastes. Since this article couldn't possibly describe every item in detail, it will serve as an overview, with a few select categories and products emphasized.

DIVE SKINS

Ocean Guide dive skins are available in five women's sizes in black or black/pink. There are six men's sizes in black, black/blue or black/lime. All versions are made of heavy nylon/Lycra for stretch and resilience. Each skin has a noncorrodible plastic zipper in front. Raised collars and double thick wrists increase comfort; thumb loops and stirrups keep arms and legs in place. The dive skins have a suggested retail price of \$54.95.

WETSUITS

Ocean Guide offers two wetsuits. Both are made of stretchy, top quality foam neoprene. The difference is the thickness—5 or 6.5mm. The outside of these suits is nylon for durability and the inside is plush for comfort. All edges have stretchy Lycra tape sewn on for a clean, finished look and long wear.

The wetsuits are jacket/farmer john (jane) combinations. The men's jacket (black/blue) is a step-in design with an angled zipper made of noncorrodible plastic. The women's jacket (black/pink) has a similar zipper but French cut legs. Both the farmer john and jane have one touch-fastener closing shoul-

der for easy entry. Sizes range from extra small to extra extra large, depending on cut. The 5mm models are \$239.95; the 6.5mm models are \$259.95.

To increase warmth, you can add one of three neoprene vests. Two models with attached hood are available (3mm, \$51.95 or 5mm, \$53.95). A zippered, hoodless 5mm vest is \$53.95. A separate 5mm hood is \$25.95.

BOOTS

Ocean Guide also takes its dive boots seriously. Nine models are offered, all made of neoprene (3 to 6.5mm). The various versions may have high or low ankles. Some have zippers. All have high traction rubber soles and some have reinforced toes and heels. Prices range from \$62 for the full featured Ocean Guide Sport, to the low cut 3mm Beach Dogs (shown here) at \$31. These are suitable for a variety of warm water sports. All boots are available in a wide range of sizes.

GLOVES

Ocean Guide offers six dive gloves. Warm water styles include five finger versions in neoprene or neoprene with Amara synthetic leather palms (such as the GL613 Dive Lite shown here; \$31). These styles may have full fingers or open fingertips. There are 5mm neoprene gloves (\$32) and heavy three finger neoprene mitts (\$30) for very cold water. All gloves have touch-fastener closures at the wrists to reduce water entry.

BUOYANCY COMPENSATORS

Four bladderless BCs are available, divided into two types, hard or soft pack. The 840 denier nylon Sea Prince (\$309.95) and Seamaster

Mike Inscore is all decked out in Ocean Guide dive gear, from Dry Snorkel and Scanner Mask to Hydro Blade Fins and Beach Dog Booties.



(\$331.95) are the heavy duty versions of each type. All BCs have removable, padded nylon cummerbunds and the pocket flaps are also removable. Six flap colors are available so you can coordinate your BC with other gear. All BCs have full mesh pockets for easy drainage. They feature gauge retaining clips and accessory D-rings. All BCs are available in black or black with accents of blue, pink or yellow in small, medium, large or extra large.

The BC520 Sea Prince has a unique, padded plastic hardpack. The pack's open frame design provides support with reduced weight. It has one tank band. The BC's shoulders are padded and adjustable and the right shoulder has a quick-release buckle.

The BC420 Seamaster has a padded softpack with dual tank bands. Both shoulders are padded and have adjustable quick-release buckles.

All Ocean Guide buoyancy compensators have overpressure/dump valves on the lower back and built into the inflator attachment at the left shoulder. The low pressure/manual inflators are push-button operated; the hoses feature a stylish segmented pattern and snap to the low pressure hose.

TANKS

Ocean Guide offers a variety of tanks, from 6 cubic foot emergency ascent bottles (\$189) to 100 cubic foot aluminum cylinders (\$295). The green tank shown here is an 80 cubic foot model (\$249).

REGULATORS

The Ocean Guide regulator comes in two types; with an adjustable (\$249.95) or non-adjustable (\$239.95) second stage. The proven design features a balanced piston first stage with four low pressure and two high pressure ports. The heavy-duty, chrome plated brass first stage is available with a shiny or brushed finish.

The second stage has a balanced, downstream lever action valve for easy breathing. To further increase airflow or prevent freeflow, the adjustable model has a knob on the left side of the case. Covers are available in black, blue, green, yellow or pink. The standard diameter hose is available in 27 or 36 inch lengths.

GAUGES/CONSOLES

A two gauge console is offered, including an adjustable maximum depth gauge and pressure gauge (\$197.95). The three gauge console adds a compass and a small temperature gauge (\$219.95).

MASKS

When it comes to masks, Ocean

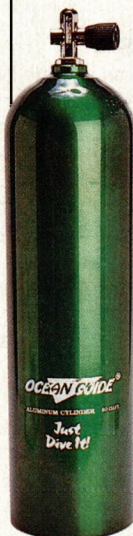
Guide has pulled out all the stops. An incredible 15 different models are offered, each available in several color combinations. The styles include single lenses, double lenses, low volume models and larger masks with side windows or purges. Suggested retail prices range from \$37 to \$59.

All Ocean Guide masks have super supple skirts of soft, injection molded clear silicone. (Some models are available with black silicone skirts.) Each style has a slightly different skirt configuration, there-

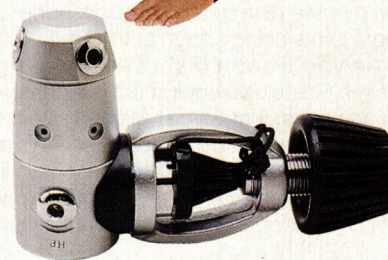
The mens' dive skin is available in six sizes as well as black/blue or black/lime.



The Seamaster BC, new for 1996, has a soft backpack and comes in all black or black with blue, pink or yellow accents.



The Ocean Guide aluminum 80 tank is available in black, blue, green or pink.



The first stage of the RG 200 regulator has four low pressure and two high pressure ports.



RG 200 adjustable second stage offers a choice of black, blue, green, yellow or pink covers.

has a split lens design, offering fairly low volume and a large viewing area. With swiveling buckles and a frame in black, transparent blue, green, pink, yellow or clear, it has a suggested retail price of \$41.

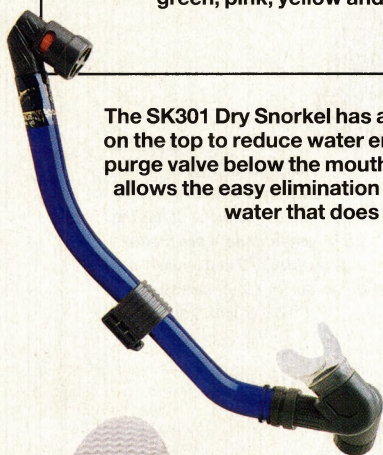
SNORKELS

Ocean Guide offers no shortage of snorkels, either. There are six models available, each with a flexible, easy breathing tube and soft silicone mouthpiece.

The SK301 Dry Snorkel that appears in our photos is the top of the line. It features a swiveling lower section with a purge/drain valve, a super easy to use, snap-on plastic keeper and a unique dry valve at the top to reduce water entry. It is available with a barrel in clear, green, yellow, pink, blue or black and has a suggested retail price of \$22.



The MK250 mask comes in blue, green, pink, yellow and clear.

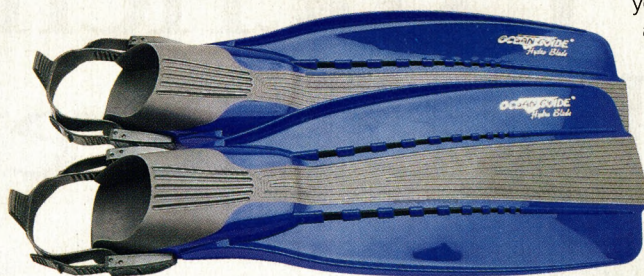


The SK301 Dry Snorkel has a valve on the top to reduce water entry. A purge valve below the mouthpiece allows the easy elimination of any water that does get in.



The 3mm Beach Dog booties, available in several colors, are suitable for warm water wear.

The Hydro Blade Fin has a flexible center panel. The fin is available in all black, all yellow and blue with gray.



The Master Dive Knife has a 420 stainless steel blade that is available with either a drop, sharp or blunt tip.



Dive Lite Gloves come in several colors, close with a touch-fastener strip and feature nylon mesh backs.



features as the Hydro Blade but without the flex panel in the blade. Available in medium or large in black, blue, yellow or green, it has a retail price of \$79.

The Ocean Diver Fin (FN407) is similar to the Super but the blade is made of a lighter thermoplastic. The buckles swivel but are more basic in design. Available in black, blue, yellow, green or pink in small, medium, large or extra large (depending on color), the Ocean Diver has a retail price of \$74.

The FN410 is a full foot fin. Smaller and lighter than its brothers, it is intended more for snorkeling. In black, blue, yellow, green or pink in extra extra small through large, it has a retail price of \$32.

KNIVES

Among the accessories available from Ocean Guide are several dive knives (some might consider these necessities). Made of rugged, corrosion resistant 420 stainless steel, they are available with blade lengths of 3½, 4½ or 6 inches. They secure in unique hard plastic sheaths with push button locks.

The top of the line is the Master Dive Knife. The choice of blades includes 4½ inch (\$49) and 6 inch (\$59) versions in drop, sharp or blunt tip.

One of the best features of the Master Dive Knife is that it can be taken completely apart quickly. By removing a plastic punch-out in the handle and unscrewing the stainless hammer-butt, you can remove the blade. This allows thorough rinsing and prevents corrosion.

FINS

Four models of dive fins are offered, all with soft thermoplastic footpockets bonded to firmer thermoplastic blades.

The top of the line FN409 Hydro Blade is the largest and offers the most features. Ridges on the non-vented blade provide resilience and stability and channel water over the blade surface for efficient propulsion. Additionally, there is a panel of softer, more flexible thermoplastic in the center of the blade to create just the right blade curve during the kick, further enhancing power and reducing resistance. The Hydro Blade Fin has push-button adjustable, swiveling buckles. Available with a blade in black, blue, yellow, green, pink or white, in medium, large and extra large (depending on color), it has a suggested retail price of \$92.

The FN408 Super Fin has the same

CONCLUSION

With such an incredible selection of dive gear, Ocean Guide has just the item, in the perfect color and size, for you. The competitive prices (they may vary, depending upon the dive shop) make your decision that much easier. However, despite the extensive line, it's important to note that Ocean Guide doesn't intend to become the biggest name in dive gear—just the best known for quality and service. The company extends great service to its dive store dealers; they, in turn, extend this same great service to their customers. If your dive store doesn't carry Ocean Guide gear, why not suggest they do? For more details and a complete product profile, contact Ocean Guide at 2909 Oregon Court, Suite B1, Torrance, CA 90503; (800) 509-8990, (310) 212-3220 or fax (310) 212-3044.

The SK302 Jet Snorkel has a flexible lower section and swivel and a slip-in plastic keeper. The top of the barrel is tapered to reduce water entry and help you "jet" out water that does get in. The SK303 model also has a drain valve below the mouthpiece. Both snorkels are available with black, blue, pink, green, yellow or clear barrels and have a suggested retail price of \$19.

The SK307 Ocean Snorkel (\$19) has a large bore tube, swivel, drain valve and silicone rubber keeper. It is available in clear, yellow, green, pink, blue or black.

The SK310 Delta (\$21) is similar to the Jet, including the flexible lower portion and drain valve. The tube is not tapered. Colors include clear but not yellow.

The SK311 Universal Snorkel (\$19) is similar to the Delta but doesn't have a drain valve.

Experience the Difference.



MK 210

This mask features a uniquely positioned purge valve to extricate air bubbles away from the mask. With this unique purge valve, one can still pinch the nostrils easily. The wide, double edged silicone rubber skirt prevents water entry efficiently and comfortably.



MK 250

This innovative split lenses mask is an ultra low volume design for easy clearing. It has the same computer designed features as the MK 270 and a newly designed buckle system for easier adjustments. Corrective lenses available.



MK 270

This low volume mask provides maximum comfort. A computer designed crystal clear silicone skirt offers a precise fit for the contour of most divers' faces. Corrective lenses available.



MK 201

Specially angled side panels provide a panoramic underwater view. A specially designed compact buckle enables to swivel 90 degrees. Seven dazzling colors to choose from; Black, T. Blue, N. Green, N. Pink, Clear, N. Yellow, and White.



Just Dive It!

OCEAN GUIDE®

Ocean Guide has an extensive range of dive equipment offering varieties of colors, features, styles and sizes to suit your personal taste.

100% customer satisfaction guaranteed!

Dealer Inquiries: 1-800-367-4459

OCEAN GUIDE INTERNATIONAL CORP.,
TORRANCE, CA 90503
TEL: (310) 212-3220
FAX: (310) 212-3044

Physics Laws

BY DENNIS K. GRAVER

Choices: General Gas, Regnault's, Kinetic gas, Torricelli, Dalton, Fick's, Charles, Archimedes', Avogadro's, Bernoulli's, Henry's, Amagat's, Mariotte's, Boyle, Gay-Lussac's, Amonton's, Pascal's.

Dive better with an increased knowledge of physics. Increase your physics knowledge by learning the gas laws. Some answers require multiple words. Use one word for each blank line. Use the choices list for advanced-level testing. For instructor-level testing, complete the quiz without referring to the choices list. It is best to write your answers on a separate answer sheet. Cover the answers at the bottom of the page until you complete the quiz. Remember, the laws of physics are unforgiving to divers.

The (1) _____ theory states that the kinetic energy of any gas at a given temperature is the same as the kinetic energy for the same number of molecules of any other gas at that temperature. A given number of particles of any given substance, called a mole, is referred to as (2) _____ number. While (3) _____ established the amount of pressure the atmosphere exerts, (4) _____ established what happens to a quantity of air when the pressure changes. (5) _____ Law states that if the temperature remains constant, the volume of a given mass of gas is inversely proportional to the absolute pressure. (6) _____ Law says that pressure at any depth in a static fluid is everywhere equal at that depth, is the same in all directions and is a function only of the specific weight of the fluid, the depth of the fluid and the pressure of the atmosphere bearing on the surface of the fluid.

The effect of temperature on a gas was determined by (7) _____, whose law says that the volume of a given mass of gas, at constant pressure, varies directly with the absolute temperature. This law does not apply to diving situations as well as (8) _____ Law, which may be stated as follows: The absolute pressure of a given mass of gas, at constant volume, varies directly with the

absolute temperature. Two other names for the law (#8) are (9) _____ Law and (10) _____ Law.

The foregoing laws may be combined to form what is referred to as the (11) _____ Law, stated as follows: The volume of a given mass of gas will vary inversely with the absolute pressure and directly with the absolute temperature. (12) _____ Law may be stated

thus: Each component of a gas mixture occupies a volume determined by the pressure and temperature of the mixture regardless of the other components involved. This law is related to a more common one by (13) _____, which states that each component of a gas mixture exerts a pressure determined by the volume and temperature of the mixture regardless of the other components involved. (14) _____ Law concludes that the amount of gas that will dissolve into a liquid at a given temperature is almost directly proportional to the partial pressure of that gas. (15) _____ Law, which is more applicable to diving, says that the rate of gas diffusion among tissue, blood and lung is directly proportional to the gas partial pressure gradient.

There are two other important laws pertaining to diving. One of them is (16) _____ Principle, which states that any object wholly or partly immersed in a fluid is buoyed up by a force equal to the weight of the fluid displaced by the object. The other important law that applies to scuba regulators is (17) _____ Principle, stated thus: The pressure surrounding a moving fluid decreases as the speed of the fluid increases and increases as the density of the fluid increases.

Answers: (1) Kinetic gas (2) Avogadro's (3) Torricelli (4) Boyle (5) Mariotte's (6) Pascal's (7) Charles (8) Gay-Lussac's (9) Amonton's (10) Regnault's (11) General Gas (12) Amagat's (13) Dalton (14) Henry's (15) Fick's (16) Archimedes' (17) Bernoulli's

Physics: Back to Basics

BY E.R. CROSS



Like most divers I am a practical technician rather than a purely scientific individual. Because of this, it is interesting to occasionally re-examine the science of diving as related to our safety and survival in and underwater. I marvel at the ability of the human body to successfully adapt to the drastic changes in pressure to which it is subjected. The boundaries or limits of this ability to adapt are often very abrupt. Even though we may not know why, to push beyond those limits invites problems, some of which could be fatal. There is very little room for error. Awareness and early recognition of the effects of pressure ensure a safer dive. Also, divers need to recognize and be aware to what extent bodies can adapt to those effects.

The principal explanation for our capa-

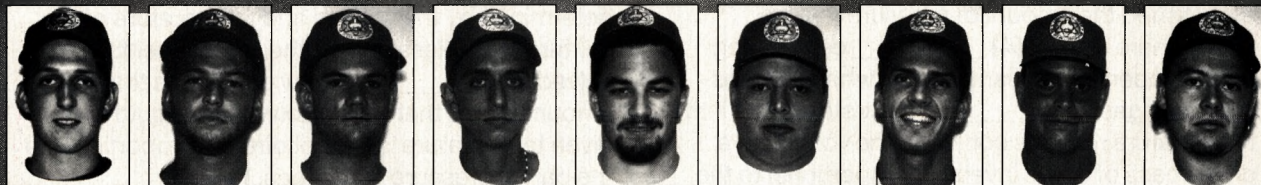
bility to adapt is that we are primarily a mixture of interdependent elements. Simple solids, fluids, chemicals and a mixture of gases form our principal components. In the reaction and interaction that supports life, these simple elements become extremely complex. They become even more complex when subjected to the rigors of diving. Even the apparent solids become involved in changes and reactions. It seems probable that a change in any of the parameters of a breathing gas (the mix, pressure, density) may also influence and change the elemental functions of life processes. It is important these limits are not exceeded.

BACK TO BASICS

The effect of breathing gases on a diver depends most importantly on the nature of the gas. Reaction to a specific gas may be caused by three physically inter-

related things: pressure, volume and absolute temperature. Pressure is the physical stress exerted uniformly in all directions times the unit area; for example, pounds per square inch (psi). In diving, we use this plus several other kinds of measurements of force and pressure. Since this is a review of diving physics, a basic understanding of the words used to define pressure is important.

The average atmospheric pressure at sea level is approximately 14.7 psi. This is also expressed as one atmosphere of pressure. On the average, a human body has an area of about 2,000 square inches. This means the total pressure exerted on an average body is equal to about 14.7 tons. For example: 2,000 square inches x 14.7 psi = total pounds divided by 2,000 pounds per ton = 14.7 tons total pressure on the average person at sea level. Since internal and external pres-



TRAIN WITH THE NUMBER TWO SCHOOL IN THE NATION

With so many claiming to be the "LARGEST", "PREMIER" or the "BEST"... We can guarantee you we are "NUMBER TWO", and yes, we try HARDER!

Our training exceeds the required ANSI Standard.

The Ocean Corporation trains you in offshore safety and survival... because we think it's important! *You should too!!*

WHEN YOU GRADUATE, YOU'LL WEAR THE HOTTEST BRAND GOING

Call 1-800-321-0298

10840 Rockley Road • Houston, Texas 77099-3416



TEXAS



tures are equal, we are saturated at one atmosphere of pressure. Because tissues are saturated, no changes occur in pressure or volume. Also, there are no physical or physiological effects at one atmosphere of pressure, provided the normal percentages and pressure of atmospheric gases remain constant.

Gauge pressure is the difference between pressure being measured (in a dive tank for example) and the existing atmospheric pressure. Most scuba tank gauges are not adjustable for altitude. The gauge pressure in a tank when measured at altitude will read slightly higher than at sea level; the actual gauge reading being dependent on the change in altitude. Depth is also measured in gauge pressure, stated (in the U.S.) as so many feet or fathoms. Modern marine charts and some maps show depths and altitudes in meters.

Absolute pressure is atmospheric pressure plus gauge pressure and is expressed as pounds per square inch absolute. Absolute pressure can also be expressed in atmospheres. Absolute pressure and absolute partial pressure, become important in understanding and dealing with the physiological effects of gases.

Partial pressure is defined as the pressure that would be exerted by one component of a gas mixture if it were

present alone in the container. For example, suppose a scuba tank is filled with compressed air to a pressure of 2,000 psi. Also, suppose air is 78 percent nitrogen and 21 percent oxygen. The partial pressure of the nitrogen would be 78 percent of 2,000 pounds or 1,560 psi. The oxygen partial pressure would then be 420 psi. It is the partial pressure of gases that fuels the fires of life and causes our dive problems.

Volume is the total capacity of an object. Volume is expressed in several ways: cubic inches, cubic feet or several other methods, depending on the system of measurement being used. For example, a standard scuba tank is usually referred to as a 72 cubic foot (cf) tank when filled to a pressure of 2,250 psi. The newer 3,000 psi tanks are rated at 80 cf. They probably contain the stated volume only if over-pressured by ten percent.

In the laws of gases, temperature means temperature above absolute zero. Since temperature changes involved in diving are relatively small when compared with the rather large absolute temperatures involved, they can usually be disregarded.

Several laws of gases define their reactions to pressure and volume. One of the basic physical laws is that a gas in contact with a fluid will go into solution until the pressure inside is equal to the pres-

sure surrounding the fluid. The rate that gases go into solution depends on several factors. Among them are the differential in pressure (depth, in the case of a diver), the viscosity of the fluid, the type of gas, rate of blood supply and others. To complicate matters even more, the rate of absorption of gases by divers may vary from day to day. No one knows why but there are some interesting speculations. Gas absorption is not instantaneous. The amount of a gas that will be absorbed depends on pressure and time. Some fast tissues may become saturated in just a few hours. Other slow tissues may take as long as 24 hours to saturate.

Another relevant physical property of gases is that in a mixture, each gas will go into solution as if it was alone. The volume of a gas will vary inversely with the absolute pressure; double the absolute pressure and the volume will be halved. However, the density will be doubled. These laws are important in the physical effects of pressure on the diver. The physiological effects of gases are caused by other factors: type of gas, increased density of the gases and the reactions of life processes, which are probably the most important.

THE GASES

Air is the gaseous envelope that sur-
(Continued on Page 90)

The Bahamas

Cay Sal Bank



Why Rough It ?!

When you can now dive the remote and pristine Bahamas in comfort and style aboard the world's first SWATH live-aboard dive boat, the *Nekton Pilot*. Experience the first class accommodations, the delicious cuisine, and the hassle-free diving from the elevating dive platform. Departing from South Florida and Great Exuma for week-long cruises throughout the Bahamas, the *Nekton Pilot* is designed to pamper divers seeking adventure and the unique.

Gingerbread Grounds

Inquire about our FREE Airfare Special!

NEKTON® DIVING CRUISES

(800) U/W WORLD
(800) 899-6753 (305) 463-9324



Huge Sundek



Spacious Lounge



Comfortable Cabin



Fabulous Diving

Ship's Registry: U.S. Patents 5,140,924 and 5,282,763

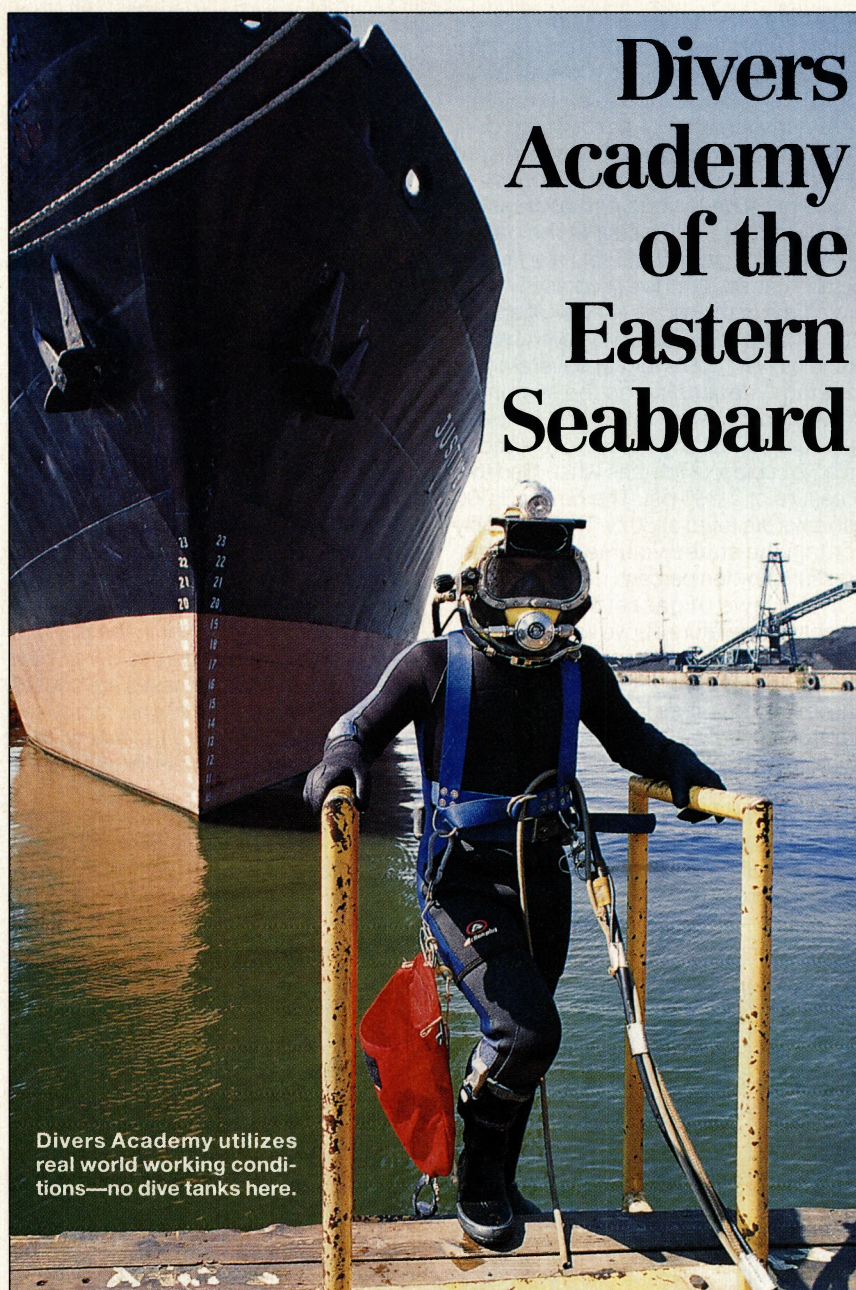
Conception

Rum Cay

San Salvador

circle #106 on Reader Service Card

Divers Academy of the Eastern Seaboard



Divers Academy utilizes real world working conditions—no dive tanks here.



Top: Kathy Crisafi being helped aboard the *Bulldog II* workboat. Above: Jerome Higgins getting valuable hands-on training in the black waters of the Delaware River.

First Step in a Commercial Diving Career

Carlos Araya and Kathy Crisafi are commercial diving students at Divers Academy of the Eastern Seaboard (DAES) in Camden, New Jersey. Both had similar reasons for choosing a career in commercial diving and both echoed the sentiment of all DAES students I interviewed when describing their positive feelings about the school and its instructors. Their backgrounds, though, are definitely different.

Kathy, 36, from Piscataway, New Jersey, has a B.S. in biology and is a former toxicologist. She told me, "I like the outdoors and I like diving. I had the opportunity to combine my two loves. I chose Divers Academy of the Eastern

TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHY BY HERB SEGARS

Seaboard for a number of reasons. It is close to my home and has a shorter course length than other schools. This is important because I am unemployed and I need to get working. I like that the training is done in real conditions." Kathy is a veteran New Jersey wreck diver who feels her wreck diving background prepared her for the low visibility encountered in the Delaware River.

Carlos, 33, a former army mechanic from Seattle, Washington, had very different beginnings. Until starting classes at DAES, he had never been diving. That

didn't matter, he seemed destined to make this career change. He said, "I have always loved the thought of diving and can kick myself in the butt for not doing it when I was younger. I feel I have been a fish away from water. Now, I try to spend as much time on the bottom as I can." His reasons for choosing the Divers Academy of the Eastern Seaboard were clear and precise. "First is the location. I liked that they train in the conditions you'll find when you're working. The cost of the course was not a big issue for me as long as I received the training to do the job. Other school's courses were longer and weren't giving me any more than I was getting at DAES in a shorter amount of



Above/below: Tamara Brown, vice president and director of Divers Academy of the Eastern Seaboard, helps a student prepare for a dive. DAES is in Camden, New Jersey, right on the Delaware River. Founded in 1977, the school underwent a major expansion and renovation in 1995.

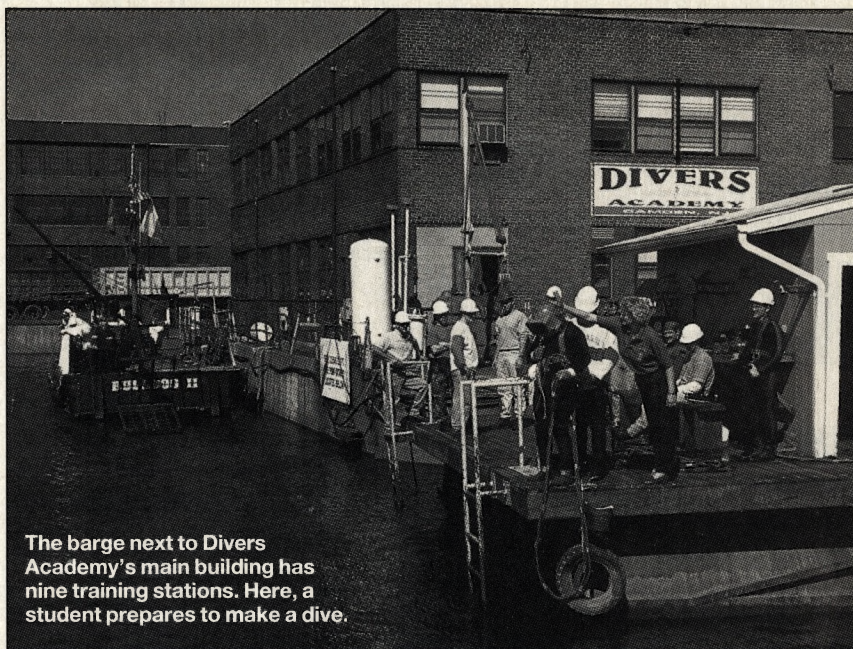


time and for less money. I felt DAES offered more than the other schools.

"One of the student's fathers works for a large oil company. It sub-contracts all its diving work. He asked the divers which school they would recommend for his son. They all said the Divers Academy of the Eastern Seaboard. That made me feel good."

According to Tamara M. Brown, corporate vice president and director of DAES, a commercial diver with more than 15 years of experience, student and industry referrals are very high. "Graduate referrals are going through the roof. Forty-five percent of our enrollment comes from graduate referrals. If our graduates are not happy, they won't recommend us. We are also getting a large number of referrals from dive companies who employ our students. Our reputation is proven by our graduate and industry referrals."

There is no doubt that one of the biggest draws of the Divers Academy of the Eastern Seaboard is its real life class-



The barge next to Divers Academy's main building has nine training stations. Here, a student prepares to make a dive.

room—the Delaware River. Tamara Brown elaborates on her feelings about putting students into black water. "We don't believe in training tanks. It's all open water from day one. A lot of people say we should put students into a training tank; that it's a safer way to start. Then, the first time they hit the river, they're scared to death and they drop out. We get them used to open water right away. It is a very safe, controlled environment; however, it is realistic and it is open water."

Inherent in the training in the Delaware River is experience with tidal conditions. These conditions are found in a very large portion of the inland diving market. Brown talks about the importance of this training. "We are in the middle of the inland market and we consider ourselves the premier inland diving school because that's what we focus on. We train our students in black water and all our dives are done in tidal waters. Our students use tide books when they plan a project, they plan it around the tide. Lack of tidal knowledge can cause the loss of a job. A couple of our graduates were working on a job with graduates of another school. The other graduates tied off the workboat and didn't leave slack in the lines for the tidal swing. My graduates took over after they were let go."

Divers Academy of the Eastern Seaboard is in the Port of Philadelphia in Camden, New Jersey, at the South Jersey Port Shipping Terminal. The school was founded in 1977 by Captain Bill Brown, a commercial diver who knew what it took to turn out quality commercial divers.

In 1995, DAES underwent a major expansion and renovation, increasing the number of classrooms, expanding the welding training labs, adding new floats

to its training barge and a 400 amp welder. It also installed a new barge access ramp and expanded the pier side dive stations. The *Bulldog II* received an upgraded air system and dive stations, a state of the art hot water system (purchased from a DAES graduate who now manufactures them) and an impressive SIMRAD underwater video system.

The school's administrative staff is now in new corporate offices at the entrance to the complex. The teaching staff, classrooms, workshops, changing rooms and equipment lockers are in a two story brick building on the waterfront. The workboat, the *Bulldog II*, a 48 foot long twin screw steel pushboat with a 20 foot beam, is alongside the pier behind the main building. It has three dive stations that can be used as staging centers for underwater projects. A 17 by 22 foot double lock stationary hyperbaric chamber, a portable double lock chamber, 400 amp and 500 amp welders and air compressors are dockside. A 36 by 38 foot barge lies in a slip adjacent to the main building, adding nine additional training stations. The water depth at all stations ranges between 44 and 50 feet, depending on tidal conditions. Water temperatures vary according to the season. In mid-summer, bottom temperatures can reach the low 70s (°F) while winter temperatures can be a bone chilling 35.

Students receive a 20 week, 720 hour course. Classes are held Mondays through Thursdays from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm and from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm on Fridays. The curriculum includes diving physics and physiology, decompression treatment and treatment tables, first aid and CPR. Deep sea diving techniques and procedures, commercial scuba, un-

(Continued on Page 101)



TRUK-MICRONESIA



BAY ISLANDS OF HONDURAS



KONA -HAWAII



COCO ISLAND-COSTA RICA

Dive the World with Aggressor Fleet

Diving the world is easy with Aggressor Fleet. Our first-class floating resorts take you to the most exotic dive destinations and provide the perfect backdrop for your dream vacation. Imagine diving with schooling Hammerheads in Coco Island, Sea Lions in the Galapagos, or Whale Sharks in Hawaii. All this and more when you dive the world with Aggressor Fleet!



FLEET

The Ultimate in Live-Aboards®

800-348-2628

P.O. Drawer K
Morgan City, LA 70381
FAX (504) 384-0817



PALAU-MICRONESIA



TURKS & CAICOS - BWI



Coming Soon!

BELIZE-CENTRAL AMERICA

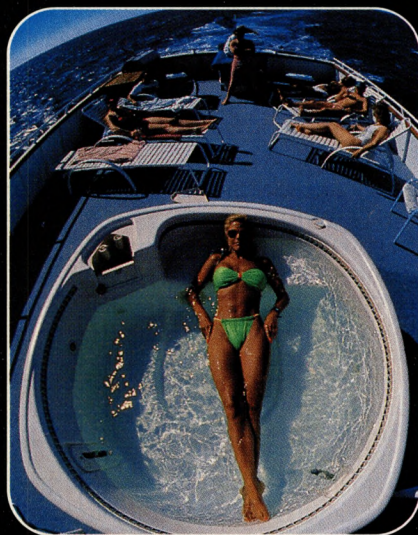


CAYMAN ISLANDS - BWI



GALAPAGOS-ECUADOR
Featuring 2 vessels

Make your 1996 Aggressor Travel Plans Now!



CELEBRITY CRUISE CALENDAR

March 1996

Turks & Caicos—
Sail with Jean-Michel Cousteau
Kona—Stan Waterman

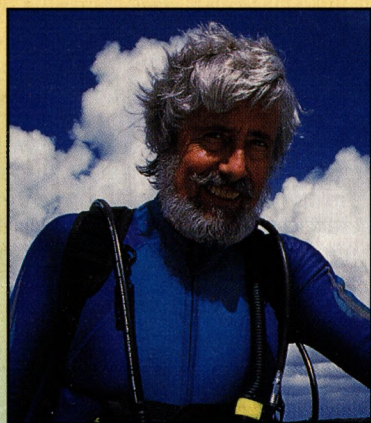
April 1996

Palau—
Jim Church/Stan Waterman Week
Truk—
Jim Church/Stan Waterman Week

June 1996

Cayman Islands—
Jean-Michel Cousteau
Team/Nikonos Adventures

Call for additional
dates, destinations
and details!



*Aggressor Fleet e3 L'Aventure
Jean-Michel Cousteau*



Observation, Preservation,
Participation
See Cruise Calendar in this ad.



Over Ten Years Experience Finding the "World's Best" Diving...Aggressor Fleet!®

Prepare to be swept away at Little Cayman Beach Resort...

Air, Land, Dive Packages

1-800-327-3835

or 813-323-8727

Fax: 813-323-8827

4127 5th Ave. North

St. Petersburg, FL 33713

CIWOA

Member of the Cayman Islands Watersports Operators Association



Experience the thrill of spectacular drop-offs starting at only 20' deep and the adventure of descending into the unspoiled natural beauty of our protected marine park. Dive three tanks a day, everyday. World-class services and facilities are provided by Reef Divers and Reef Photo & Video Center. Truly a dive vacation to surpass your expectations.

©SD/AD 1995

circle #41 on Reader Service Card

Dive the Brac

at the Brac Reef Beach Resort

When we look out our window we see more dive sites and fewer neighbors, which means more reef per diver! More reef, more walls, more wrecks, more FUN! Call now to find out how you can see more, too!



Air, Land, Dive Packages

1-800-327-3835

Or 813-323-8727 Fax: 813-323-8827

4127 5th Ave. North, St. Petersburg, FL 33713

CIWOA

Member of the Cayman Islands Watersports Operators Association

©SD/AD 1995

MARES DIVING EQUIPMENT NEWS

Claudio Ferrantino, president of HTM Mares S.p.A., parent company of Mares Diving Equipment, has announced the formation of Mares America Corporation. The new subsidiary will be responsible for the marketing, sales and distribution of Mares diving equipment in the United States.

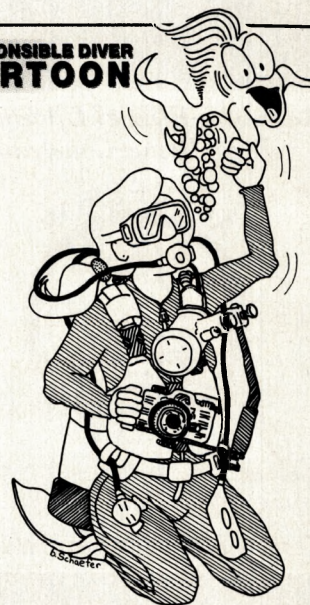
Mares, one of the world's leading manufacturers of recreational diving products, was previously marketed in the U.S. under the Head Sports, Inc. umbrella.

Mares America will be headquartered in Norwalk, Connecticut and staffed by a group dedicated solely to the Mares brand.

The president of Mares America will be Carlo A. Bertozzi, who has a long association with the diving industry, including a 10 year period as president of Mares Italy during the late 1970s and mid 1980s. Bertozzi is also a principal of Management Resources of America, the Norwalk-based consulting and management services company that will be providing additional management services to the new entity.

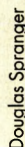
Through Mares America, Mares expects to fully realize the potential of a brand that has been associated with scuba equipment since the early stages of development and is today considered the technological leader in the market. The major goal of the new subsidiary will be to provide the best service to U.S. customers. 🐠

RESPONSIBLE DIVER CARTOON



Don't make your
own photo
opportunities.

TOBAGO TRINIDAD & TOBAGO TRINIDAD & TOBAGO TRINIDAD & TOBAGO



circle #116 on Reader Service Card

7 Great Animal Dives in the Caribbean

Face to Fin with Exciting Wildlife!

TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHY BY GERI MURPHY

While all Caribbean islands offer clear, warm water and lush coral reefs, there are certain spots where large animals are encountered on a frequent and consistent basis. These special sites extend well beyond the normal encounters with groupers, grunts and goatfish. There is nothing quite as thrilling as encountering and swimming with a wild animal underwater, especially if the animal is as large or larger than yourself.

If you seek more than the average coral reef dive site, you may wish to consider one of these seven great animal dives in the Caribbean Sea.

1 STINGRAYS BY THE DOZEN/

GRAND CAYMAN: Packs of 12 to 15 friendly Southern Stingrays greet and cavort with divers in the clear, shallow waters of Grand Cayman's protected North Sound. In depths ranging from 5 to 12 feet, visitors can observe these marvelous creatures while divemasters feed them tidbits of frozen Squid or Ballyhoo. With the resident populations swelling to 100 or more, **Stingray City** has become world renowned.

2 NIGHTTIME MANTA DIVE/LITTLE CAYMAN:

An encounter with Molly the Manta is perhaps one of the most exciting and beautiful night dives in the world. With dive lights attracting buckets of plankton, sweet Molly performs graceful and continual loops right in front of each diver while scooping up a free supper. The nightly ritual usually takes place on a sandy bottom in 50 feet of water at a site called **The Meadows**.

3 NURSE SHARKS AND STINGRAYS/AMBERGRIS CAYE:

Inside the Belize's Great Barrier Reef, **Shark-Ray Alley** is a newly discovered site where six to ten young Nurse Sharks and a dozen Southern Stingrays gather daily to greet divers. In only 15 feet of water, on

an Eel Grass and sand bottom, divemasters are able to feed and play with the young sharks and stingrays while visitors eagerly take photos and video. Visibility ranges from 50 to 70 feet.

4 WILD DOLPHIN ENCOUNTER/LIGHTHOUSE REEF:

Fifty miles off the jungle coast of Belize there swims a solitary female dolphin that loves to greet and play with divers. Belizean dive guides call her Pita while live-aboard skippers have named her Honey. For the last four years she has been cruising the shallows



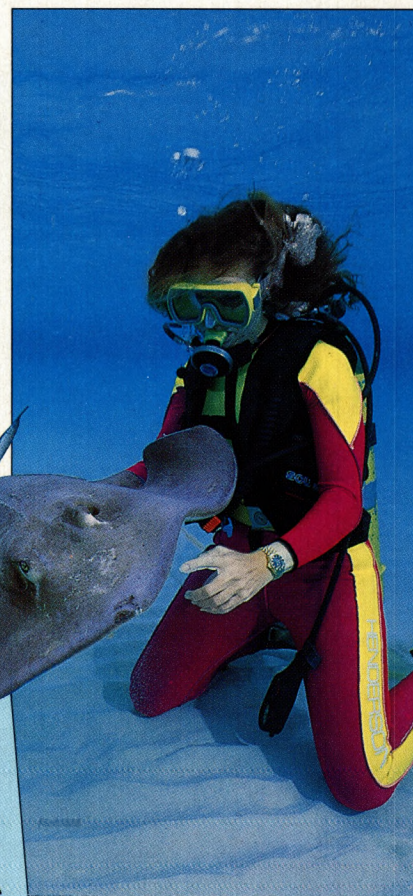
inside **Lighthouse Reef** and following the dive boats as they move from site to site. Honey loves to be petted, patted and stroked while she swims with snorkelers.

5 MANTA DANCING/TOBAGO:

One of the most exhilarating animal encounters is with a community of Manta Rays that lives off the southeast end of Tobago. Measuring 10 to 12 feet across, these gentle giants appear to crave the attention of scuba divers and actually enjoy being ridden or stroked. While the mantas are there on a year-round basis, the greatest numbers congregate in the spring and summer.

6 HUMPBAC WHALES/TURKS & CAICOS:

From December to April of each year, the Turks & Caicos offer a whale of an adventure for live-aboard divers and a few day boats operating out of Grand Turk and Salt Cay. More than



Stingray City's Southern Stingrays are world famous. Grand Cayman is just one of several islands in the Caribbean offering special encounters with large, friendly marine life.

3,000 migrating Humpback Whales gather at the **Silver Banks** to give birth and train their newborn calves. Visiting divers have an opportunity to snorkel and swim with these incredible giants and a few lucky divers are able to get a glimpse or photo of a mother whale with a calf.

7 FROLICKING DOLPHINS/ROATAN:

Adjacent Anthony's Key Resort, the Institute for Marine Sciences offers an opportunity for small groups of snorkelers or scuba divers to interact with a dozen Atlantic Bottlenose Dolphins. The Dolphin Discovery Program has become a popular attraction for day boat divers as well as those on live-aboards.

For more information about these unusual wildlife experiences, consult your dive travel special or contact those resorts and live-aboards advertising animal dives in these travel destinations.

UNBELIEVABLE UNLIMITED DIVING!

Limited Time Offer*
Call NOW!

TAKE YOUR PICK...

Dive with Parrots Landing,
Grand Cayman's most elite dive
facility, and you can select between 25
Hotels and Condominiums all along the
7-Mile Beach area.

Choose from 8 boats to take you to
Cayman's magnificent dive sites
including the North, South & West Walls
and Stingray City.

Parrots Landing even offers an all-day
"3-Tank" boat trip for advanced divers
who use computers. Plus there are
caves, grottos and a 6000 foot wall just a
snorkel from our dive shop.

All packages include UNLIMITED BOAT
& SHORE DIVING, tanks, weights, and
belts and a Sunset Sail aboard our 60'
Catamaran, so give us a call and

TAKE YOUR PICK!



GRAND CAYMAN'S WATERSPORTS PARK

* Jan. 4 - Feb. 14, 1996

CAYMAN HOTELS

	3 Nts	5 Nts	7 Nts
CAYMAN ISLANDER	\$326	\$552	\$779
HOLIDAY INN	\$566	\$953	\$1340
INDIES SUITES	\$561	\$945	\$1329
SEAVIEW	\$312	\$530	\$748
SLEEP INN	\$447	\$764	\$1062
TREASURE ISLAND	\$480	\$810	\$1140

Prices are based on double occupancy & include UNLIMITED boat & shore diving, everyday except day of arrival & day of departure, hotel, gratuities & taxes, airport transfers & a sunset sail aboard the "Cockatoo." Offer valid January 4 - February 14, 1996.

CAYMAN CONDOS

	3 Nts	5 Nts	7 Nts
CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS	\$405	\$684	\$964
GRAPETREE/COCOPLUM	\$424	\$717	\$1009
LONDON HOUSE	\$437	\$738	\$1039
TARQUYNN MANOR	\$370	\$626	\$883
VICTORIA HOUSE	\$440	\$744	\$1047
VILLAS OF THE GALLEON	\$480	\$810	\$1140

Prices are based on quad occupancy & include UNLIMITED boat & shore diving, except day of arrival & day of departure, hotel, gratuities & taxes, airport transfers & a sunset sail aboard the "Cockatoo." Offer valid January 4 - February 14, 1996.

DIVE BOATS

WEST WALLS	45' "AMAZON"
SOUTH WALLS	34' "MACAW"
NORTH WALLS	45' "AFRICAN GREY"
STINGRAY CITY	31' "CONURE"
COMPUTER DIVING	28' "TOUCAN"
PRIVATE CHARTERS	42' "LORIKEET"
SAIL/SNORKEL TRIPS	60' "THE COCKATOO"

TRANSPORTATION

Cayman Airways	CALL
AIRPORT/CONDO PICK UPS	FREE!
CAR RENTALS	from \$43/day

COCONUT HARBOUR

OUR FAVORITE PERCH	3 Nts	5 Nts	7 Nts
	\$417	\$705	\$993

Cayman's ONLY choice for the dedicated diver

Prices are based on double occupancy & include UNLIMITED boat & shore diving, everyday except day of arrival & day of departure, hotel, gratuities & taxes, airport transfers & a sunset sail aboard the "Cockatoo." Offer valid January 4 - February 14, 1996.

1-800 448-0428 EXT. 1111

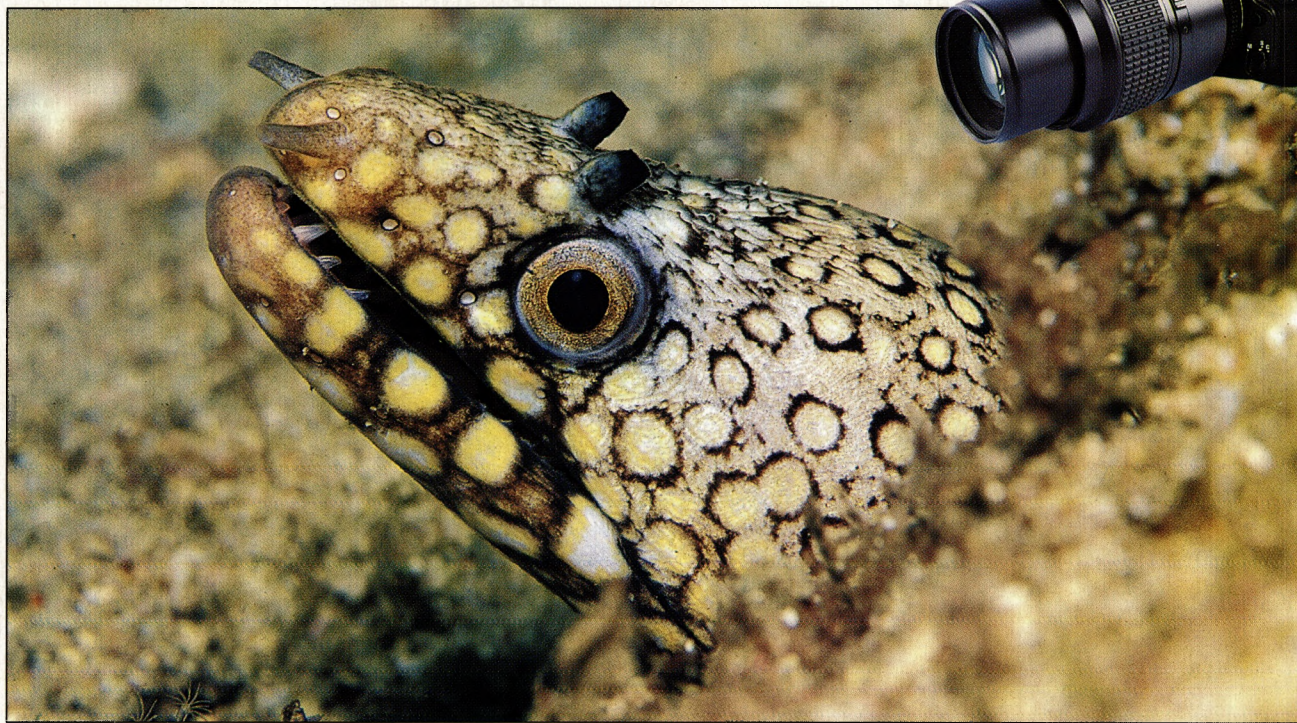
PO Box 1995, Grand Cayman, BWI • Tel: (809) 949-7884 Fax: (809) 949-0294

circle #2 on Reader Service Card

Making Autofocus Easy

When and How to Use Automatic Image Focusing

TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHY BY GERI MURPHY



Most of today's SLR housings offer the option of both auto and manual focus. In fact, some make it as easy as flipping a lever or twisting a knob. The question is, "Why do you need both and when do you use autofocus?"

The answer is not easy. The choice of manual or autofocus depends largely on the situation; the type of subject, the environment and personal technique.

The choice of autofocus can vary greatly from one photographer to another. Some use autofocus U/W 80 to 90 percent of the time. For others, it may be used only 50 percent. The choice is pretty much up to the individual.

To help you get started, here are five basic rules on when and how autofocus can be used to your best advantage.

1 BETTER FOR CLOSE-UP AND MACRO: Autofocus tends to work best with close-up and macro lenses such as the 60 or 105mm AF Micro-Nikkors. They provide a limited area of coverage, which is easier to control and compose. Peripheral activities and unwanted action

are minimized and the autofocus sensors concentrate on the primary subject.

2 SET SERVO MODE ON SINGLE: If your camera offers both single (S) and continuous (C) autofocus servo modes, always select single. This will allow you more control over the focusing situation and greatly reduce your frustration. Continuous (C) servo mode will drive you crazy and fatigue your eye because it will continuously range in and out of focus if the subject moves slightly.

3 AVOID FRANTIC FISH: Avoid trying to photograph fish that dart in and out of the picture. This can be extremely frustrating because the autofocus system never has an opportunity to lock on long enough for a shutter release.

4 AIM AT HARD EDGES: Autofocus sensors have a difficult time finding the sharp focus point on a flat, featureless subject such as a blank wall. The autofocus mechanism will track in and out as it constantly seeks a hard edge—any sort of sharp line (vertical, horizontal, diagonal or circular).

Above: This juvenile Jewel Moray was photographed off Guanacaste, Costa Rica, with the Nikon N90s camera and 105mm AF Micro-Nikkor lens (top right).

If a fish has a flat, smooth, monotone body, aim for the eye or mouth—where the autofocus sensor can detect hard edges. Avoid creatures with subdued or blurry patterns such as soft corals, unless there is a hard edge in the picture area.

5 AVOID BUSY ENVIRONMENTS: Avoid using autofocus when there is a great deal of foreground movement. The autofocus may be distracted by the movement of the foreground subjects, thus never locking onto sharp focus of the primary subject. You should have a clean, undisturbed view of your primary subject before attempting a shot. This may mean changing the camera angle or finding another subject.

Remember: Autofocus SLRs are designed to make photography easier, not more frustrating. Knowing when to use this marvelous technology is the key to success. 🐟

ADOPT PEACE ON REEF IN YOUR OWN DIVING

Conservation minded divers have welcomed the introduction of the new Peace on Reef (Look Don't Touch) signal by Mike Ball Dive Expeditions. Mike Ball is now encouraging other dive operators to adopt the Peace on Reef concept. All those using the signal should include it in the pre-dive briefing, similar to the following briefing given by the Mike Ball Dive Trip Directors:



"Please listen—this is very important. We need everybody's cooperation to help protect our dive sites. If you see someone accidentally making contact with the reef—whether it is myself, one of my staff or one of our guests—we expect another diver to attract our attention, give the V-signal (Peace on Reef/Look Don't Touch) and point to the damage. Such a simple accident can happen to even the best diver. What is important is that we all become more aware of conserving the marine environment by bringing our attention to any contact we may have with the marine life."

If adopted across the entire dive industry, the signal cannot help but have a positive effect on the conservation of delicate marine environments. 🐟

NEW BOAT AT GAZ'S BELIZE DIVE CENTER

Gaz's Belize Dive Center has bought the 36 foot diesel turbo powered *Flying Manta*. Owner/operator Gaz Cooper says, "The *Flying Manta* is the most comfortable day boat from Ambergris Caye servicing the Blue Hole, Lighthouse Reef and the Turneffe Islands."

Gaz's Belize Dive Center, based at the Belize Yacht Club, is the most complete dive center in Belize. Besides the *Flying Manta*, the fleet of dive vessels includes the 55 foot *Manta IV*, specializing in overnight trips to the Blue Hole, Lighthouse Reef and the Turneffe Islands; the 36 foot *Sea Dancer* and 32 foot *Sea Nymph*, for local barrier reef diving, special day trips and group charters; and an array of four to six passenger boats for small group and local barrier reef diving.

For information and/or booking dive trips and tours to Gaz's Belize Dive Center call Belize Dive Tours at (800) 938-0860 or (305) 938-0860; fax (305) 524-3629. 🐟

DIVING ADVENTURE, AND

A unique and attractive private island resort combining natural beauty with casual elegance, modern comforts, fine food and excellent service. Beachside or hillside rooms air-conditioned with phone, cable TV, refrigerator and private patio. Dedicated dive operation, full service marina, all watersports, tennis and basketball courts.

Fantasy Island Beach Resort Dive & Marina
Roatan - Bay Islands - Honduras

(800) 676-2826 (813) 835-4449 011 (504) 45-1222

circle #53 on Reader Service Card

Dive with the world's best U/W photo pro/tour leader*...

1996 Week-long, Super Courses

May through August!
Call/Fax/write for free 16-page Super Course brochure

Cathy Church

© SD/AD 1995

LEARN WITH CATHY ON GRAND CAYMAN

at Sunset U/W Photo Centre & Gallery. Half day U/W photo classes, PADI photo specialty & private instruction with Cathy.

* Rodale Scuba Diving Magazine
• Readers' Choice Award 1st place, 1/95

Cathy and husband Herb Rafael plan every detail for a memorable dive/photo vacation. Join our fun-loving group in the Solomon Islands aboard the Bilikiki March 19-30 and April 2-13, 1996.

Includes free photo course!
Also join us in Fiji on Matagi Princess, late April, 1996 and Truk and Palau, October, 1996

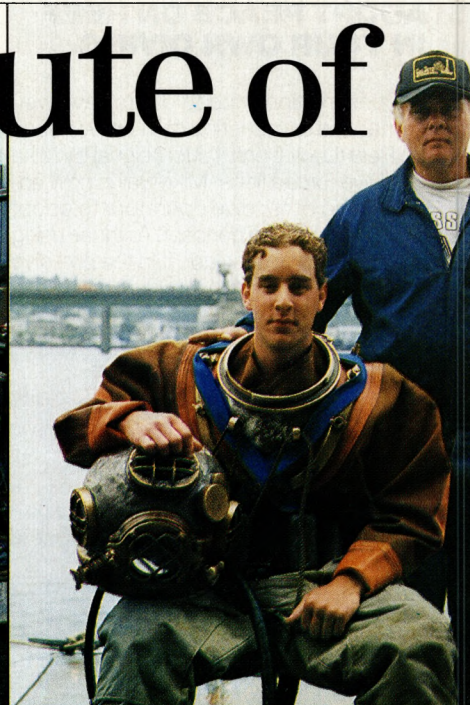
To receive a copy of the *Cathy Church Bulletin* describing all of our trips and courses, call or write: **Cathy Church, P.O. Box 479, Grand Cayman, B.W. I.**

809-949-7415 • Fax 809-949-9770

For a free color brochure of Cathy's breathtaking U/W photos, call: **800-934-3661**

Divers Institute of

photographs / courtesy DIT



Demonstrated Leadership in Commercial Diving

BY E.R. CROSS

Most commercial diving is done in the oceans and seas by offshore divers. But commercial divers also solve problems in coastal and inland bodies of water; in harbors, lakes and rivers. Many others operate in shallow ponds and creeks that wash around the abutments of bridges and trestles. Still others must labor in the sluggish waters behind dams and in tanks and cooling water catch basins. That is what commercial diving is all about—divers work wherever there is water. Around the world, many of these underwater workers will be highly trained graduates of the Divers Institute of Technology in Seattle, Washington.

John Ritter, commercial diver and business leader, told me, "Commercial diving is such a vital field of work that many businesses and industries could not exist today without it." John is president and director of Divers Institute of Technology. A man who anticipated a trend and stepped in ahead of the crowd to lead the way, he is an industry leader in commercial diver safety and education.

Diving of any kind demands some degree of mechanical knowledge and experience. For the greatest possibility of success, a commercial diver must have a high mechanical aptitude and considerable manual dexterity. Experienced construction workers, equipment mechan-

ics, welders, steel workers, electronic specialists and people with paramedic experience have skills desirable in commercial divers. This career is very labor intensive and requires much hands-on work. A diver must be able to work alone in solving problems. There will be no one looking over his or her shoulder. Whether in training or deep underwater on a job, divers must be confident, self-reliant and self-motivated.

It has always been apparent that students improve faster when trained in a real world environment. DIT is ideally situated at the foot of 11th Avenue NW in the busy maritime city of Seattle, Washington. It is on Salmon Bay, an open water channel connecting Puget Sound and Lake Washington. Environmental conditions at the DIT campus are conducive to year-round instruction. The climate is seasonal but there are no weather extremes. Underwater visibility averages three to four feet. Water temperature ranges from 48°F in winter to 54 in summer. Much of the work these future commercial divers will do will be under similar circumstances and surroundings.

It is the goal of DIT to graduate skilled, capable and versatile divers. There isn't an affiliation with a specialty diving industry or company, which could limit the students' training. DIT does, however, maintain a close liaison with many diver em-



Above center: Training for underwater welding in intense, real world working conditions. Above: Diver undergoing a simulated decontamination procedure.

ployers. For each graduating class, DIT mails a list of the names of graduates to 75 companies that hire divers. The school will usually have more requests for qualified divers than it has graduates. For example, in September 1995 DIT placement director Willy Wilson received 54 re-

Technology

quests from diving companies for information on the DIT graduates for that month. During the early part of the month, eight graduates had already been placed with diving companies.

DIT is approved to participate in several educational financing programs. A professional and experienced staff is available to help students organize tuition needs. Students will particularly appreciate the advice and help of Thomas Nicol,

director of financial aid. Student financial advisor, Margaret Stone, can help students handle financial problems with tuition and loan payments. Financial accounts assistant, Jackie Faul, is experienced in marketing, advertising and security. This experienced financial aid staff can help students in their choices and applications for the various grants and loans that may be available. Grants do not usually have to be repaid; loans must be repaid, normally after a specific time following graduation.

Students who are accepted for training are assigned a scheduled class. Classes at DIT convene the first Monday of each month. They are usually small, most having 12 to 15 students. Classes train as a group throughout the seven month, 900 hour course; one of the most extensive and comprehensive courses available for commercial diving. All classes, whether in classrooms, on training barges and floats or in the field, run from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm with a 45 minute lunch break. No school breaks or vacation periods are scheduled. The school does observe all national holidays.

An important DIT goal is to graduate divers who are of the greatest possible value to employers, not only while they are in the water but while on deck between dives. Becoming a good diver involves more than learning to dive.

Students who assimilate knowledge of on-deck procedures and practices will become better, safer and more valuable employees. In all phases of training, the institute makes every effort to meet the needs and high standards of the dive industry. Special tutoring and advising is available.

In spite of the detailed information available, I had some questions for DIT.

SDM: How important to the future of your graduates is an understanding of the sciences of diving?

DIT: George M. Thomas, the principal instructor in classes on personal safety, answered. "In reaching their goal of being commercial divers, students must start their training in classes designed to help them understand the principles of the diving sciences. Knowledge gained in these classes prepares students for diving first aid, personal safety on dive jobs and CPR." George added, "Dive industry employers consider this instruction one of the most important and essential aspects of dive training." George's background includes nearly 20 years in the U.S. Navy in submarine and ship salvage, SEAL team training and instructing at diving schools.

SDM: What facilities does DIT have that can ensure adequate training?

DIT: Michael Massey, who has been an instructor at DIT for 13 years, answered. "The DIT campus includes more than 32,000 square feet of land and dock based installations. Moored at the piers is an extensive inventory of floating equipment, including a fleet of seven boats, floats and barges that provide dive platforms for all the hands-on, practical elements of the course." Massey continued, "Depth alongside and under the dive platforms averages about 30 feet, ideal for dive training." Michael started diving commercially in 1975. He has worked in the North Sea and the Middle East.

SDM: How important to graduates entering the dive industry is qualification in

Far left: Diver learning new skills in the dark waters of Puget Sound. Left: Instructor Mike Dashiell with student in hardhat rig. Below: The new DIT deep dive vessel, *Response*, is a fully capable, open water catamaran measuring 65 by 25 feet.

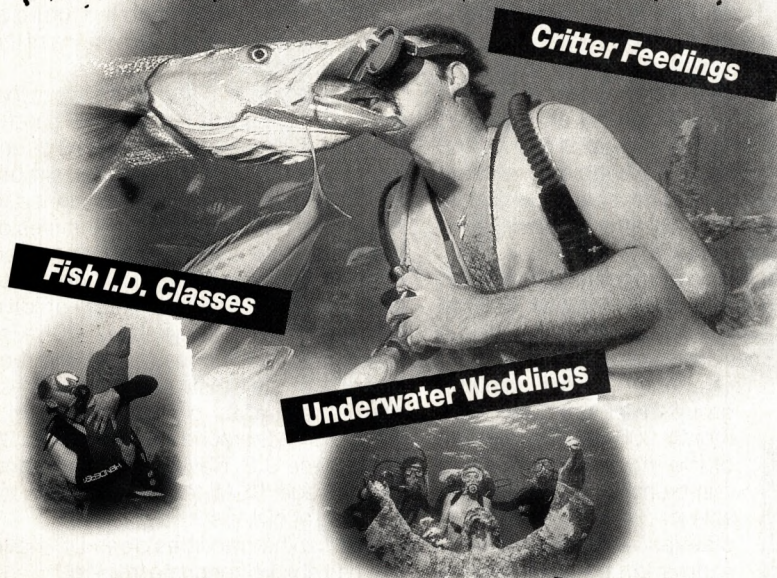


Below: The Divers Institute of Technology is ideally situated at the foot of 11th Avenue NW, in the busy maritime city of Seattle. Several specialties are unique to DIT, including hardhat gear such as the MK V and two weeks of open water training.

DIVERS INSTITUTE



Dive Capt. Slate's AMAZING UNDERWATER WORLD!



Critter Feedings

Fish I.D. Classes

Underwater Weddings

Best Western



Featuring two level, waterfront suites with full kitchens, pool and FREE continental breakfast to get divers started in the morning!



Cutter Wreck Dives



KEY LARGO'S
CAPT. SLATE'S ATLANTIS DIVE CENTER
1-800-272-9122
(305) 451-3020 • Fax (305) 451-9240



Captain Slate's
ATLANTIS
DIVE CENTER INC.

© SD/AD 1995

circle #145 on Reader Service Card



Discover the
Wonders of the
Underwater
World Every
Month!

DIVERS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

underwater welding and cutting?

DIT: Retired navy master diver John Searcy is one of the instructors who teaches underwater welding and metal cutting. He told me, "For many years underwater metal cutting, with special torches, has been an important diver skill." John also revealed, "In recent years, high technology welding rods and new techniques taught at DIT have helped increase the use and quality of wet welding." He added, "This is important. It equates to an additional job potential for a DIT graduate."

SDM: Does DIT have an inventory of tools and equipment that graduates will find on most commercial jobs?

DIT: "Conventional work implements such as hammers, saws, drills, chippers and dozens of other tools are often used on diving jobs," Mike Dashiell, another DIT instructor, told me. "Students adapt to using these tools on underwater tasks while working under dive platforms on a diversity of projects." We moved to a 60 by 45 foot barge. "Under this dive platform students become familiar with the use of power tools. Several kinds of both pneumatic and hydraulic tools are used increasingly in many fields of diving." Mike has an extensive background in all phases of diving. He is experienced in air, mixed gas, bell bounce and saturation diving.

SDM: What about diving and support equipment?

DIT: "All graduates will have received about 55 hours of diving time," Dennis Elsasser, a recent addition to the professional and experienced instructional staff said, "They will have used numerous types of helmets and masks that will be found in the dive industry. Not only does this school provide all types of dive gear but a wide variety of ancillary equipment and supplies." Elsasser has a background in leadership, management and the navy saturation dive systems. At DIT he is also the basic life support, first aid and CPR instructor.

SDM: Do rigging skills enhance a commercial diver's value?

DIT: "All potential employers have told me it is essential for divers to know the basic rigging knots and how to reeve a block and tackle." Terry has a 30 year background in foreign and domestic offshore oil installations. He has also worked with saturation systems and one atmosphere rigs.

SDM: What about work involving pipes, valves and fittings? Are skills in handling and using these accessories important?

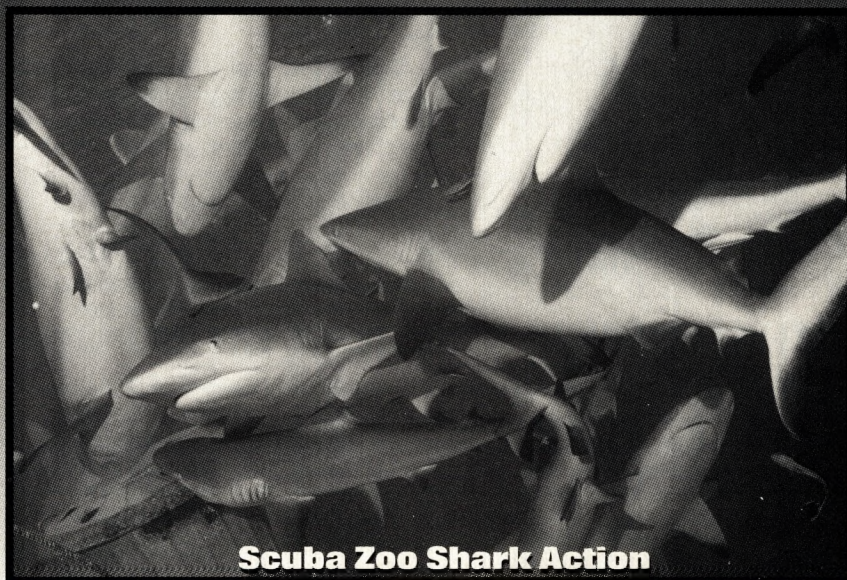
DIT: "They are very important. DIT in-

JOIN THE FRENZY!

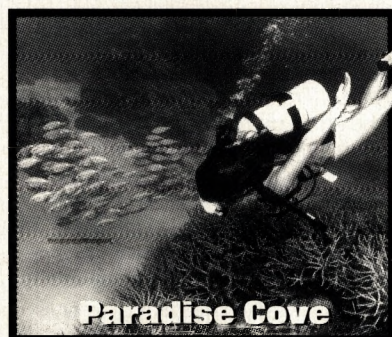


Mike Ball

"Join me down under for the trip of a lifetime! You can see 30 sharks within arm's reach at Scuba Zoo in the Coral Sea."



Scuba Zoo Shark Action



Paradise Cove

"Experience Australia's best action dives, like Scuba Zoo and the Yongala Wreck, or just glide along with thousands of tropical fish in a shallow lagoon."



Spoilsport

"Relax and enjoy exceptional meals, comfort and privacy aboard Spoilsport. I'm proud to say it's unquestionably the finest live-aboard dive vessel in Australia. See you down under!"

1996 RATES

	Pre	Std	Eco
7 days			
Jan - Jun	\$1973	\$1792	\$1616
Jul - Dec	\$2381	\$2162	\$1948
8 days			
Jan - Jun	\$2302	\$2094	\$1886
Jul - Dec	\$2618	\$2374	\$2142



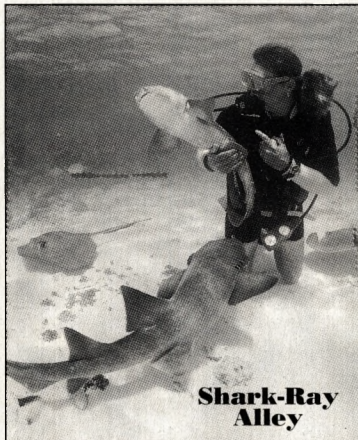
**Mike Ball
Dive Expeditions**

AUSTRALIA

**800-952-4319
FAX 011-61-77-212152**

Mike Ball
MIKE BALL

DIVE BELIZE



THE BELIZE YACHT CLUB & GAZ'S BELIZE DIVE CENTER

The Belize Yacht Club is located on Ambergris Caye and features the Splash Bar with breakfast buffet, full service marina, fresh-water pool, a fully-equipped gym and suites with kitchens, A/C and private balconies. Gaz's Belize Dive Center is a full service facility offering PADI instruction, local barrier reef diving, one-day and overnight trips to Lighthouse, Turneffe and the Blue Hole aboard the 55 ft. Manta IV.

**Coming in 1996...
Full Restaurant &
Conference Facilities**



**Call for Hotel/
Dive Packages
800-938-0860**

U.S. Ph: 305-772-0886
Fax: 305-772-0737
Belize Phone:
011-501-26-2797
Fax: 011-501-26-2892

© AD/SD 1995



DIVERS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

structors rotate regularly in the several training complexes," Terry Billingsley told me. Students can benefit from the disparate experiences of all the instructors." Instructors Michael Dashiell, Mike Massey, John Searcy, Dennis Elsasser, George "Doc" Thomas and Terry Billingsley rotate work areas as they lead students through the intricacies of the mechanical aspects of training.

SDM: How does DIT keep abreast of industry needs?

DIT: "A great deal of new diving and related support equipment and new training programs are needed to keep pace with the changing needs of the diving industry. DIT staff and the advisory committee keep in close touch with industry leaders," John Ritter said. Director of training and placement, Willy Wilson, calls contractors every month for placement and current information on their needs. He informed me, "We upgrade all aspects of DIT to keep pace with their needs."

As we walked through the well-maintained campus, John Ritter told me, "... in 1995 DIT improved its leadership role by commissioning a new deep water dive platform dedicated to improving training in all open water dive projects." DIT's new deep dive craft, *Response*, is a 65 foot self-propelled catamaran. With a beam of 25 feet she has a working deck area of 400 square feet. The *Response* also has 1,200 square feet of lab space, a 2,000 gallon fuel capacity and can carry up to 600 gallons of fresh water.

SDM: There have been many new regulations regarding the safety of divers working in potentially hazardous water. How is DIT preparing graduates to cope with both the conditions and the OSHA regulations?

DIT: "Hazardous materials (HAZMAT) training," Mike Massey explained, "is an intensive two week part of the regular DIT commercial diving course. The objective of this part of the course is to have students meet OSHA regulations (CFR-1910-120). The 40 hour program prepares them for work in hazardous waste operations and in emergency response."

Willy Wilson told me about the Job Safety Analysis (JSA) classes DIT students take. "All students with JSA certifications are more employable because employees are not obligated to provide this additional training," he explained.

OPEN WATER DEEP DIVES

Deep, open water dives are conducted from the *Response* in Lake Union and Lake Washington. They are designed as an introduction and orientation to surface decompression diving procedures.

During the two weeks of open water diving, surface supplied air dives are conducted to various depths. This training culminates in a dive to 200 feet. Also, helium-oxygen (mixed gas) dives are practiced to depths of 100 feet. The *Response* is outfitted with special helium-oxygen dive systems, including mixed gas racks. There is an adequate on-board air supply for the diving exercises and for students to practice the operation of the on-board hyperbaric chamber.

NON-DESTRUCTIVE TEST TRAINING

Not all divers will need to know how to use the several non-destructive testing procedures. Graduates who want to become involved with the offshore oil diving industry will definitely have a potential employment skill. A graduate who can take NDT skills to a smaller employer may well be able to help that company expand its work base.

At DIT the NDT course involves three weeks of intensive instruction and hands-on training. Michael Dashiell instructs in some phases. He feels, "Our NDT equipment and training will prepare graduates for work in this demanding field." He explained, "The course covers ultrasonic and magnetic particle test procedures. Each student will work with the several kinds of equipment found in the dive industry." Later, Willie Wilson reported positive feedback from dive employer HMTx Houston. It had jobs for several DIT graduates owing directly to the NDT training.

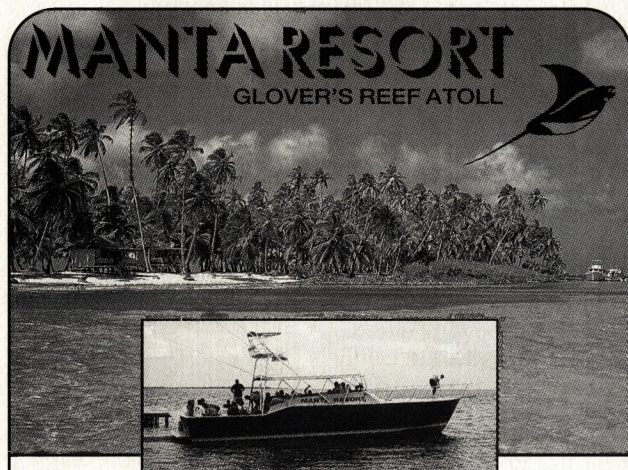
As a diver training institution, DIT is definitely greater than the sum of its many parts. Training equipment, material and the entire campus is constantly upgraded to permit training that not only meets industry standards but points the way for improvement. Several specialties in diver training are unique at DIT. Only DIT has two weeks of open water training. In addition, its 200 foot qualifying dive is unique. DIT is the only dive training establishment that continues to train graduates in the use of hardhat gear such as the MK V, Desco and Japanese helmets.

The decision making process involved in becoming a commercial diver is not an easy one. It is very important that prospective students have all the information necessary to make the best possible decision. You will undoubtedly have many other questions about DIT. Readers are urged to write to The Divers Institute of Technology, Inc., P.O. Box 70667, Seattle, WA 98107-0667. Or visit the institution at 4315 11th Avenue NW. You can call (800) 634-8377 or, in Seattle, the number is (206) 783-5542.

President and director John Ritter told me, "Now is the time for divers to dive into their future." Start the new year off right. You could be glad you did. 🐠

DIVE BELIZE

The Worlds Second Largest Barrier Reef And The Only True Atolls In The Caribbean

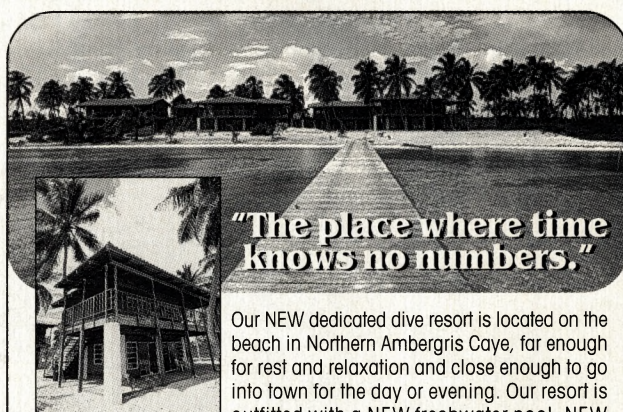


- Private 12-Acre Island With Tropical Mahogany Cabañas On Glover's Atoll
- Modern, Comfortable Dive & Fishing Boats
- Last Frontier of Unspoiled Dive Sites
- Bar & Restaurant Over Pier
- New 48' Fast Boat - "Pelagic"

Call 1-800-342-0053

U.S. Ph: 813-594-8022 • Fax: 813-594-5613
Belize Ph: 011-501-23-2767 • Fax: 011-501-23-2764

circle #149 on Reader Service Card



"The place where time knows no numbers."

Our NEW dedicated dive resort is located on the beach in Northern Ambergris Caye, far enough for rest and relaxation and close enough to go into town for the day or evening. Our resort is outfitted with a NEW freshwater pool, NEW equipment, NEW tanks, NEW boats, NEW everything.

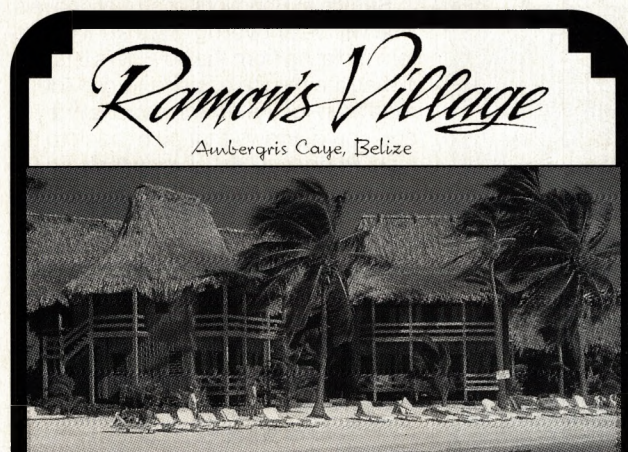
Your all inclusive week of meals, room and diving will take you to the best diving in Belize. During your week you will dive the barrier reef of Belize, the Lighthouse reef atoll, the Blue Hole and the Turneffe atoll.

Experience the easy life of diving at

THE CAYE
BEACH AND DIVE RESORT

Call 1-800-938-0860
or fax Belize direct at 501-26-3602

circle #300 on Reader Service Card



Sunny blue skies, tropical trade-winds, palm thatched cabanas, the second largest barrier reef in the world and fully staffed and equipped dive center are all just part of what makes Ramon's Village one of the most unique vacation spots in the world.

Come and Enjoy the Magic of Ramon's Village.

For reservations or information call:

1-800-MAGIC 15

Ph: 601-649-1990 • FAX: 601-649-1996

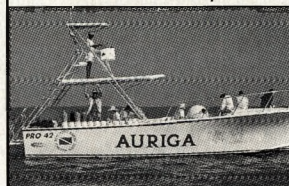
circle #301 on Reader Service Card



*We've Reserved a Seat For You
on the Best Beach in Belize...*

RUM POINT INN
PLACENCIA, SOUTHERN BELIZE

*Enjoy Diving 400 Square Miles Of
Unspoiled Untouched Reefs*



- Explore Jungles & Maya Ruins
- Ten Caribbean sculpted domes
- Pro 42 custom dive boat
- Dive shop, kayaks and more
- E-6 processing on premises

1-800-747-1381

FAX: US 504-464-0325 • FAX: BELIZE 011-501-6-23240

© SD/AD 1995

circle #302 on Reader Service Card

Close Encounters of the Bahamian Kind!

Skin Diver just voted our Shark Encounter one of the World's Best Shark Dives! More than 100 Black Tips, Caribbean Reef, Bull, Hammerhead and Lemon sharks swirl before you as they feed. At Walker's venture to our superb dive sites including Spiral Cavern Reef, Pirates Cathedral and mysterious Spanish Cannon Reef, all just 10 minutes from our dock. Night dives, wreck dives, twilight dives and a thrilling float dive are also available.

All dive packages include our shark dive and warm water bouyancy control workshop. Stay four or more nights and get your open water qualifying dives, or an upgrade to PADI Advanced Open Water Diver, absolutely free!

3 Days/2 Nights
\$515^{pp}

- Includes Round Trip Airfare from Ft. Lauderdale
- Deluxe Air Conditioned Room
- Diving, Tanks/Weights
- Breakfast/Dinner Daily
- Taxes/Tips



Toll Free US 800-327-8150
In Ft. Lauderdale 305-462-3400

WALKER'S CAY



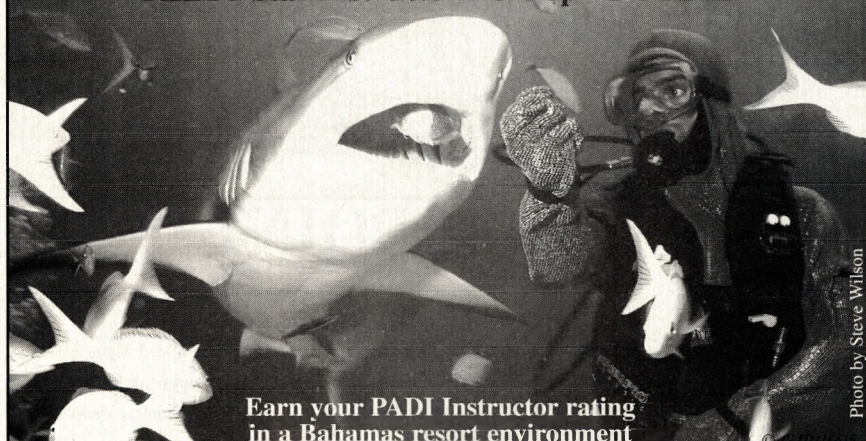
HOTEL AND MARINA
ABACO, BAHAMAS

circle #331 on Reader Service Card

SEAFOOD SNACKS

Served underwater by our experienced shark handlers at **NASSAU SCUBA CENTRE**

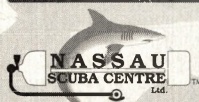
- High voltage shark dives • Relaxing out-island atmosphere
 - Awe-inspiring wall diving • Four boat-dives per day, every day
- PADI 5 Star Instructor Development Center**



Earn your PADI Instructor rating in a Bahamas resort environment

Hotel Dive Packages Available.

Call for our Free Video.



A Neal Watson's Undersea Adventures Affiliate

U.S. & Canada

800-327-8150

Nassau: 809-362-1964 • fax: 809-362-1198
P.O. Box 21766 • Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33335
U.S. fax: 305-462-4100

circle #125 on Reader Service Card

ADVANCED DIVING

(Continued from Page 21)

worse. Don't forget to bring fresh fuel (not last summer's leftover lawn mower gas), oil for the fuel and oil for the chain.

WATERPROOF AND SAFETY CLOTHES FOR THE CHAIN SAW OPERATOR: This is a wet job. Bring foul weather boating gear that will fit over winter coats, fishing hip-waders or whatever else will keep the saw operator dry. Once the saw breaks through the ice, it kicks up water through the crack. As a safety measure, the operator should wear steel-toed boots and sure-gripping gloves. Many ice divers wear crampons on their boots for firm footing on wet, slippery ice. You can find crampons in mountaineering stores. Safety glasses are also recommended.

GROUND COVER: You need insulation to reduce the chilling effects of standing on water-flooded ice. A rug or a canvas tarp will help. A wooden pallet covered with carpet is even better insulation, plus you are above the water. Do not use a smooth vinyl tarp as it becomes slippery when water flows out of the hole.

WINDBREAK: Park your vehicles so they block the wind as it sweeps across the lake. Plan on places for people to get out of the weather to warm up or change clothes. A van with an empty back end works great. If everyone has small cars, pitch a tent (the kind with an outside frame and no tent pegs). It does not take much heat from a camping stove or propane heater to warm a tent.

SHOVELS: Bring lots of sturdy shovels. You will be shoveling a spoke-like pattern radiating from the hole. This lets light penetrate the ice easier and provides a road map for the divers, especially if you add some arrows that point back to the hole. Bright sunlight shining through the spokes looks like ceiling lights from depth. Shovels are also needed to push the loose block of ice down and under the edge of the hole. If you don't have lots of shovel handles as levers, this can be hard to do. Bring push-blade shovels and steel scoop shovels. Flimsy aluminum shovels tend to curl at the corners and become worthless.

Shoveling snow is a cardiovascular workout. Everyone should help shovel if the snow is deep, so no one person is exhausted or stressed.

ICE BLOCK PIN: Once the ice block is cut and pushed under the hole's edge, it needs to be pinned, so it can't accidentally pop back into the hole, trapping divers in the water. To pin the block, drill an auger hole through the surface ice and into the block. Then put a sturdy stick or shovel handle into the auger hole to pin the block in place. The ice block is way too heavy to ever pull out of the wa-

Photo by Steve Wilson

ter. It could weigh 1,000 pounds and have a buoyant force of more than 100 pounds, so it is even a challenge to slide out of the hole.

ICE SPIKE: Remember the story about the ice diver who had a rapid ascent from the truck driving away with the safety line attached? The bitter end of a safety line needs to be attached to an immovable object. An ice spike needs to be steel or another sturdy metal. Otherwise, when you pound it with a big sledge hammer, it crumples.

WATERPROOF GLOVES AND BOOTS: Safety line tenders need to wear waterproof gloves and boots or they will be soaked and too cold to work effectively. Home improvement stores usually have big sized rubber coated canvas gloves that work pretty well. The boots need to be rubber and totally waterproof since it is wet around the hole and the safety line constantly drips water. This is no place for nice leather boots.

TBOGGAN OR SLED: If you can't drive out, owing to lack of access or ice strength, bring a toboggan to haul gear. It is tiring walking in snow, so try to move all your equipment in one trip. Flat bottomed toboggans or children's plastic sleds work the best. Bungee cords to lash things to the sled are a big help. You may need to pre-drill holes along the edge of the plastic sled to have connection holes for the bungee cords. Toboggans usually have a rope that runs around the edge for tie-down points. Put a long pull rope on the sled, so others can help you drag the heavy load.

DIVING EQUIPMENT

As you have read, the pile of equipment needed to ice dive is considerable—and I haven't even mentioned the diving equipment! Let's review your dive bag and see what adjustments and additions may be needed. In the '60s we went ice diving in wetsuits with skin diving type vests, one hose regulators and no pressure gauge. The good news is you don't have to do that today! Ice diving is much safer and more comfortable.

REGULATOR: This is your life support system. Select only a top of the line regulator that you know is in top working order. There are many excellent regulators available for general scuba use. There is a group of high end regulators that performs better in deep or cold water or when there is a need to deliver high volumes of air. Different groups have tested regulators on bench tests and in the water. Here is a list of top of the line regulators you may want to consider: Dacor Extreme, Mares MR 12 Navy, Mares MR22 Abyss, Nemrod Tornado, Ocean Edge R6600AL, Ocean Edge R6700A, Oceanic Alpha IV, Oceanic Delta II, Parkway-Poseidon Odin, Pro Sub Command Air DLX II, Scubapro MK

◆ BELIZE ◆

IT'S MORE THAN JUST REEFS!

- WORLD'S SECOND LARGEST BARRIER REEF
- FULL SERVICE DIVE SHOP ON PREMISES
- FAMOUS BLUE HOLE
- LIGHTHOUSE REEF
- TURNEFFE REEF
- MAYAN TEMPLES
- JUNGLE TOURS
- DISCOUNT AIRFARES
- CUSTOM DIVE BOATS
- TROPICAL RAIN FORESTS
- DELUXE OCEANFRONT HOTEL
- OVERNIGHT LIVE-ABOARD EXCURSIONS



**CALL FOR HOTEL/DIVE
AIR PACKAGE INFO & RATES:
800-327-8150**



San Pedro, Ambergris Cay
(305) 462-3400 • (305) 462-4100 (Fax)
P.O. Box 21766, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33335
A Neal Watson's Undersea Adventure Affiliate



© SD/AD 1994

circle #308 on Reader Service Card

Freeport, Bahamas Outrageous Dives

**The only
ocean front
resort in
Freeport
with a
Dive shop
on the premises!**

Outstanding Resort



Xanadu Undersea Adventures offers up to 4 dives daily including night dives, wrecks, sharks, walls, instruction & rental. Enjoy our private beach, pool, tennis. We're minutes from golf, casino & shopping.

**3 day/2 nt
pkgs from**

\$157^{pp}

800-327-8150



FREEPORT, GRAND BAHAMA
A Neal Watson's Undersea Adventure Affiliate



**(305) 462-3400
(305) 462-4100 (Fax)
(809) 352-3811**
**P.O. Box 21766,
Ft. Lauderdale,
FL 33335**

© SD/AD 1994

circle #123 on Reader Service Card

PADI INSTRUCTOR TRAINING

NITROX INSTRUCTOR TRAINING AVAILABLE

1-800-289-3483

Our modular approach to instructor training, allows you to choose how far you want to go. Our TRIAD course covers all the elements to be a safe, competent PADI instructor. The **GOLD INSTRUCTOR** program takes you farther, all the way through resort training.



3 times
awarded
PADI #1
Training
Facility*

GOLD INSTRUCTOR TRIAD INSTRUCTOR

- CPR & Medic First Aid Instructor
- Specialty Instructor
- Master Scuba Diver Trainer
- Resort Instructor Course
- Nitrox Instructor
- Advanced Open Water
- Rescue Diver • Medic First Aid
- Divemaster • Instructor Prep
- Instructor Development
- Headstart Program

• FREE WORLDWIDE PLACEMENT

Positions on cruise ships, and dive resorts in the Caribbean, in resorts around the world, and in retail dive stores.

• CONTINUING INSTRUCTOR AND RETAIL SUPPORT

after graduation. Ongoing consultation on services and materials.

• COMPLETE CAREER PROGRAM

Conveniently scheduled once a month.

• DIVERS UNLIMITED

is the oldest ongoing instructor school in the U.S.

• APPROVED FOR VETERANS TRAINING

DIVERS UNLIMITED

6023 Hollywood Boulevard • Hollywood, Florida 33024

(800) 289-3483 • (305) 981-0156

Fax (305) 963-5255

Travel Services by:



STAR TRAVEL LTD.

*1975/76/77

circle #1 on Reader Service Card

ADVANCED DIVING

15/D400, Scubapro MK 15/G250, Sea Quest Spectrum, Sherwood Oasis 2, U.S. Divers Micra+, U.S. Divers SEA4, Zeagle Tech 50D or Zeagle ZRD.

EXPOSURE SUIT: Wear long johns or the thermal undersuit designed to go with your drysuit to stay warm and dry. The hoods of many drysuits have a thin rubber seal that mates with your mask skirt, so no flesh is left exposed. Your head can be responsible for 40 percent of the body's heat loss, so select a hood that traps heat. While waiting to dive, wear a wool cap. Wool is breathable and warm. If you think your boots or mitts might leak, use duct tape to seal them to your suit. While some people used to dive with layered wetsuits, there are so many good drysuits available today, why make do with a wetsuit? Cold is the enemy in the battle with hypothermia and a drysuit is your protection.

MASK: Find a mask with a skirt that fits inside your hood's face hole or will seal to the thin rubber face seal of some drysuit hoods. Being watertight is the key. It is a genuine physiological shock to your body to get a face full of ice cold water. If it is very cold on the surface, be careful about spitting in your mask as a defogger. It freezes after you smear it around and makes for an opaque view of the world—and you don't want to rinse it during the dive. Use a commercial defogger in the winter.

HARNES: Ice divers are always tethered to the surface by a safety line. This line is constantly held and monitored by a line tender. The line is hooked to a harness worn by the divers over his/her drysuit but under the BC. The harness slips on like a jacket with over-the-shoulder and around-the-chest straps made of heavy canvas webbing. D-rings are sewn on the shoulders and front mid-chest. Attachment of the line is commonly by carabiners or a scissor clip. Be careful not to use a clip that could get bumped and spring open or a knot that could come untied.

LINES: There are two schools of thought on lines. One school says each diver should be on his/her own color-coded line of equal length with his/her buddy's line. The other prefers a Y-shaped line. Only one line goes back to the surface line tender but each diver is attached to a short line on the two arms of the Y.

There are pluses and minuses to each line arrangement. Two separate lines can and do get entangled. But, each diver can use his/her own line signals when tethered solo. Separately tethered divers have more freedom of movement, espe-

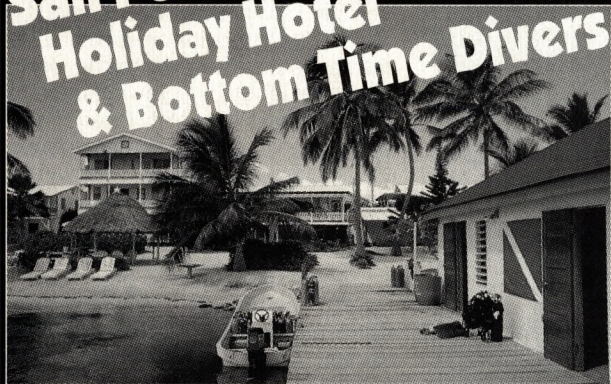
Tuition
Financing
Available

©SD/AD 1995

DIVE BELIZE

185 MILES OF BARRIER REEF AND 200 MILES OF WALL DIVING

San Pedro Holiday Hotel & Bottom Time Divers



Escape and relax at **THE SAN PEDRO HOLIDAY HOTEL** located on Ambergris Caye. Spend your sun drenched days scuba diving or snorkeling with **Bottom Time Divers**. Relax in the sheer, unhurried comfort of this romantic setting, where endless adventures... friendly, personal hospitality... and home-style fare complement an unforgettable holiday.

For reservations & information

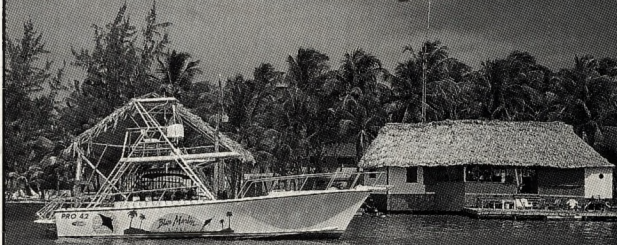
1-800-382-7776

Belize Ph. 011-501-26-2014 Fax: 011-501-26-2295

circle #31 on Reader Service Card

Blue Martin LODGE

on the Belize Barrier Reef



UNLIMITED DIVING!!!

Located on South Water Caye, our resort is on the Living Belize Barrier Reef. Our new Pro 42 custom dive boat leads our fleet of boats. Packages include room, meals, 2 boat dives daily and of course unlimited shore diving (weather permitting). A hidden paradise for divers, anglers and beachcombers.

800-798-1558

Ph: 011-501-52-2243/2759 • Fax 011-501-52-2296

circle #330 on Reader Service Card

Coconuts Caribbean Hotel

Located on the beach on Ambergris Caye, we have 12 new rooms, all with A/C, free breakfast and bicycles every day.

Diving services by
CAZ'S BELIZE DIVE CENTER
w/special trips to Shark-Ray
Alley, Lighthouse, Turneffe
& the Great Blue Hole.



For information on packages **1-800-938-0860**

Ph. 011-501-26-3500 • Fax: 011-501-26-3501

circle #332 on Reader Service Card

DIVE BELIZE, BAY ISLANDS & COZUMEL

LIGHTHOUSE/
THE BLUE HOLE
TURNEFFE ISLANDS
BARRIER REEF
1-2-3 DAY TRIPS



EXPLORE

MAYAN RUINS
WILDLIFE TREKS
"TUBING" MAYAN
CAVES
KAYAKING
FISHING

CALL "KAT"
OUR ADVANCED DIVER
& TRAVEL SPECIALIST
(800) 896-2398
Fax (970) 586-3041

circle #339 on Reader Service Card

BLACKBIRD CAYE RESORT



Blackbird Caye "Heaven Under the Sea" located on the Turneffe Atoll with unbelievable diving and snorkeling directly in front of our resort. Black Coral forests, vertical walls, pelagics, fish, coral and sponges galore. Our friendly resort and dive staff will ensure a pleasurable, memorable stay.

"This will not be your average vacation"

For information on packages call: Betty Taylor
U.S. Ph. 713-659-5144 • Fax 713-658-0739
1415 Louisiana, #3100 • Houston, TX 77002

circle #340 on Reader Service Card

© SD/AD 1995



The
**BEST-KEPT SECRET
IN DIVING**
is becoming common knowledge.



Simply stated, for the past 25 years we have cared more about creating comfortable divers than about marketing programs. In fact, hundreds of thousands of divers have gone through our courses, and we have won awards for our high quality certification products.

We have made a name within the industry, but not necessarily with the general diving public. However, this is changing as more and more dive operators turn to SSI. There are now over 1,100 SSI Dealers in 75 countries, and more people are getting certified SSI every year.

You owe it to yourself to find out more about SSI.

Contact SSI for more information about SSI and the nearest SSI Authorized Dealer.



SCUBA SCHOOLS INTERNATIONAL

2619 CANTON COURT • FORT COLLINS, CO 80525-4498 1-800-892-2702 • (970) 482-0883 • FAX (970) 482-6157
E-Mail: SSILEN@aol.com • SSIHQ@delphi.com • 71234,2437@compuserve.com

© 1995 CONCEPT SYSTEMS, INC.

Circle #126 on Reader Service Card

ADVANCED DIVING

cially if they are working underwater.

The Y-line guarantees the divers stay close together and the lines seldom get tangled. However, line signals tend to get jumbled and are harder to send and receive clearly. Y-line divers have the psychological support of knowing their buddies can't swim away unobserved. If you use a Y-line, make the arms different colors to help differentiate the divers. Whatever length line you select for the divers, be sure the safety diver's line is a different color and 50 percent longer. A nice line to work with in the cold, wet environment is tubular, woven, nylon mountain climbing line. It is strong, comes in varied colors, does not float, kink or knot accidentally and is easy to grip.

OTHER DIVE EQUIPMENT: Other open water gear is adaptable—fins, knife, gauges, computer, watch, weightbelt, buoyancy compensator, tank and lights. Remember that battery life decreases substantially in cold water, so start with fresh batteries. Adjust all equipment to size while you are still in the warming tent or vehicle. Your dexterity and coordination are greatly reduced in heavy gloves or three-finger mitts. It is nice to have assistance with your gear so don't be too macho to accept help.

Notice there is no snorkel on the gear list. It is fantasy to think you could chisel a hole from under the ice and insert a snorkel to breathe. One inch of solid ice is nearly impossible to chip through and yet one inch of ice would not support the surface operation! Another myth is that you can use the snorkel to breathe air trapped underneath the ice—this author has never seen any air pockets under lake ice.

Check your knife and be sure you can use it when wearing mitts. Can you get it out of the sheath? Can you get a solid grip on the handle? Is it actually sharp enough to cut?

Wearing a buoyancy compensator might seem silly at first. But buoyancy control is very important in ice diving. Everyone is going to dive in the same spot. If you carelessly kick up the soft sediment and wipe out the visibility, your fellow divers will have no fun. Also, a key procedure in ice diving is to ascend to just under the ice in an emergency. If you are just under the ice ceiling, a safety diver can jump in and do a quick circle sweep to locate you. You could need the BC to help with ascent or maintain position. Remember, your inflatable drysuit is thermal protection, not a buoyancy control device.

DIVE FLAGS: These are a source of controversy for ice divers. Some states require scuba divers to fly the red and

white divers down flag and their regulations do not differentiate among seasons. Other areas may call for the blue and white Alpha flag. Some experts recommend flying the India flag—a yellow background with a black dot. The whole reason for flying a flag is to notify others in the area that a diver is underwater. Since snowmobilers may not recognize any of the flags, the real question is how to keep the dive area safe. Do what you must to keep from getting a no-flag ticket. Many ice divers circle the area with vehicles and put brightly colored construction tape across the gaps. If the snow is deep enough, poke the shovels in the snow banks and string construction tape from handle to handle. Do anything you can to stop high speed traffic from racing across the dive zone. When you are finished diving, remember to collect the tape and dispose of it properly.

SUMMARY

Now that your training is complete, your dive bag packed and all the other equipment assembled, you are ready to head for the lake. Next month's column will discuss procedures, how to use a tether line, etiquette and medical considerations of diving in a cold environment. 🐟

FUNDIVERS' NEW JAMAICA DIVE CENTER

FunDivers, a PADI International Resort dive operation, celebrated its two year anniversary of providing services at Wyndham Rose Hall in November. The event was marked by the opening of FunDivers' brand new Dive Centre, right on the beach in Montego Bay, Jamaica. This oceanfront spot centralizes operations, with the dive boat departing only feet away and wash-off and drying facilities for equipment right beside the building.

FunDivers now offers a range of retail items, educational materials, dive souvenirs and T-shirts. An innovative classroom allows students to watch videos and enjoy the sea breeze at the same time. The idyllic setting encourages divers to linger in the shade of the sea pines and enjoy the view on the glorious 1,000 foot white sand beach.

The Wyndham is adding to the celebration, offering some crazy prices on accommodation/dive packages with breakfast, airport transfers, taxes and tips all included. The Wyndham's full facility resort, offering top quality services and entertainment (including children's programs), has plenty for non-diving spouses. There is even an adjoining 18 hole championship golf course, set amid fabulous scenery.

For more information, contact Susan Clare at (809) 953-2650, call (800) 934-DIVE or see your nearby PADI Dive Center. 🐟



invites you to celebrate

PETER HUGHES DIVE BONAIRE's 20th Anniversary Special!




4 NIGHTS

\$369

From as low as

per person, double occupancy







VALUE ADDED FEATURES

- Unlimited boat dives (as scheduled)
- Unlimited airfills (for shore diving)
- \$20.00 per person, per stay, beverage credit
- \$20.00 per room match play at Flamingo Casino

(800) 367-3484

Price quoted is for a four (4) night stay, per person based on double occupancy and is valid from January 6, 1996 thru April 7, 1996. Price includes air-conditioned accommodations in a Standard room, roundtrip airport hotel transfers, complimentary buoyancy control clinic, the above mentioned VALUE ADDED FEATURES, all taxes and service charges on package features. **Local phone : (919) 419-3484.** ©SD/AD 1995

circle #315 on Reader Service Card



*You've been here before.
In your dreams.*

Cayman Brac

Come experience the incredible diving you've only dreamed about. On Cayman Brac. Crystal clear waters. Incredible walls. Nearby reefs, teeming with an abundance of exotic marine life. A stay at Divi's Tiara Beach Resort on Cayman Brac is all at a price you can stop dreaming about and start enjoying!

WINTER SPECIAL

5 NIGHTS

\$499

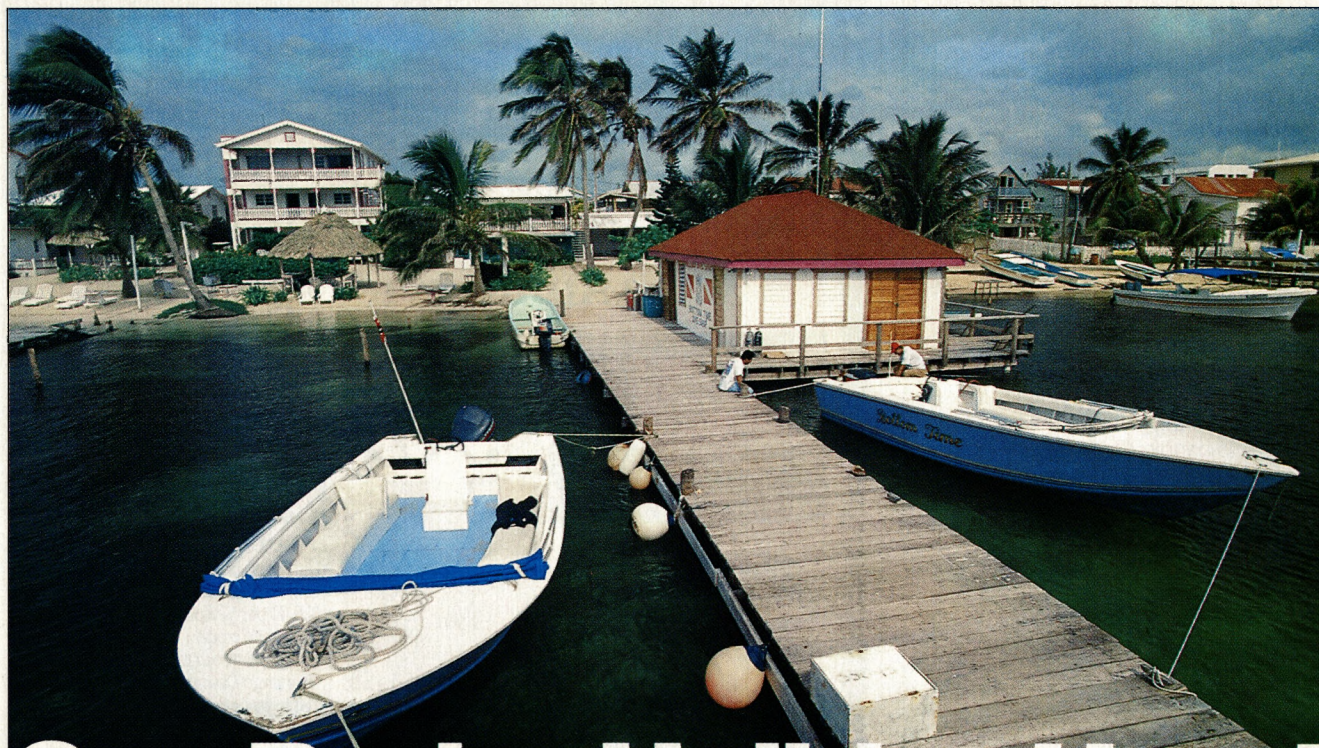
from per person

Call for Reservations and Information

(800) 367-3484

Offer good January 6, 1996 thru April 7, 1996. Subject to change without notice. Price quoted is per person, based on double occupancy, EP, subject to availability and may change without notice. Certain restrictions apply for group travel. **Local phone : (919) 419-3484. Fax : (919) 419-2075.** ©SD/AD 1995

circle #38 on Reader Service Card



San Pedro Holiday Hotel Bottom Time Dive Shop

*A Dive Dedicated Beach Resort
with Old Caribbean Flavor*

TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHY BY RICK FREHSEE



Top: The charming Holiday Hotel is a dedicated dive resort, complete with attached dive shop, dock and boats. Above: The exciting Shark-Ray Alley animal encounter. Right: The world renowned Great Blue Hole.

Reaching paradise is not always an ordeal. My flight from Miami included a glass of wine, a fine seafood meal, an in-flight movie and a cat nap—completed with dreams of warm, clear water and golden coral reefs. Two hours after I boarded it, our TACA 767 touched down at the International Airport just outside Belize City. Within

one-half hour I was aboard a Tropic Air twin prop and 15 minutes later I arrived in paradise—Ambergris Caye.

Ambergris should appeal to most anyone yearning for a tropical getaway. This is especially true if you are a diver searching for both exciting diving and a fun island. Ambergris, 25 miles long and one-



half to two miles wide, is Belize's largest offshore caye. Actually, it is an island by virtue of a narrow canal, dug by the ancient Maya, that separates Ambergris from the southern end of the Yucatan Peninsula. This geographical closeness has made it convenient to the Yucatecan Maya, who migrated here from Mexico during and since the Caste War of 1861. Today, Ambergris is purely Belizean but with more than a hint of Maya-Mexican ambiance. Ambergris Caye is also Belize's most populated and most popular offshore island. San Pedro Town, toward the southern end of Ambergris Caye, is the local and tourist hub. Lining the sandy streets bordering the eastern beaches are numerous shops, restaurants, bars and hotels. In the center of town, on the beach, is the charming and nearly historic San Pedro Holiday Hotel. The town center does not imply traffic, noise or crowds. It is merely the middle of what is still more of a sleepy fishing village than an industrious tourist Mecca; few buildings in San Pedro are taller than a palm tree.

Celi Nuñez McCorkle is an island girl by her own definition. Born and raised in San Pedro, she is also the belladonna of tourism on Ambergris Caye. Celi opened Holiday Hotel, a five room establishment, on June 16, 1965. With a sing-song voice that characteristically mixes purpose with humor, Celi described those early days: "We had *nada*—nothing! No electricity, no water, no phones, not even an airstrip. Guests arrived by sailboat and they were picked up in a Land Rover, the island's only vehicle. We brought luggage to the hotel with a wheel barrow!"

Dive tourism began on Ambergris Caye when Celi brought in the island's first compressor in 1970, a 4.5 cubic foot Mako transported in a trailer through Mexico. After the arrival of the island's hyperbaric chamber eight years ago, dive tourism accelerated rapidly and Holiday Hotel has been a focused dive resort ever since. Today Celi takes a more behind the scenes role. The day by day operation is handled by another island girl, Kim Reyes, the friendly and capable resident manager.

I had visited the San Pedro Holiday Hotel restaurant before and knew I could expect a relaxed, unhurried stay. This friendly place exudes island charm. Over the years it has improved in appointments and services (in fact, renovations were being completed during my visit) but not at the expense of losing its soul. Holiday Hotel looks like, feels like and is an authentic island retreat, combining modern conveniences with hospitality and a way of life that, unfortunately, is disappearing in much of the Caribbean.

The hotel entrance is downtown streetside, but the loveliest view is from



Above: Chefie Paz (left) owns and manages Holiday Hotel's dedicated dive operation, Bottom Time Divers. Celi Nuñez McCorkle (right) opened the Holiday Hotel (below) in 1965. Together they offer great diving with island enchantment.



With more than 280 miles of virtually unexplored barrier reef (the second longest in the world), excellent visibility and thrilling marine life encounters, Belize is on everyone's must dive list.



the beach. The original building (the foundation of which was built on thousands of crushed conch shells, Celi told me) is still visible toward the northern end, between the main house and a

guest wing. The hotel restaurant is on the first floor. The focal point is the three story main house, which houses the reception area, Sea Gal boutique, tropical lounge and social room on the first floor and guestrooms above. To the south is a cabaña. The entire hotel exterior is an accurate portrayal of Caribbean/colonial architecture, finished in pure white with gingerbread latticework and trim painted in bright fuchsia. (The pink-purple paint color is Celi's formula, mixed in Miami.) The result is a cheery island masterpiece.

The courtyard is 200 feet of beachfront, combining manicured palms, seagrasses and succulents with white sugar sand. Accents include two *palapas*, tables, chairs and a bevy of beach chaise lounges. Gabled gateways border both ends of the beach. The hotel and grounds are cared for like a fine old estate; each morning the beach is raked and general cleaning proceeds through the day.

Like the rest of the hotel, guestrooms are warm, friendly and relaxing. There are 16 rooms, including one suite, all seafront with an ocean view and furnished with one or two queen sized beds or a combination queen and one or more single beds. One modern concession is that every guestroom is air-conditioned. Or, if you prefer, there are vented windows and overhead fans. Of course, today there is electricity and hot/cold running water and drinking water in your room. But the phone is in the office, along with a fax and the only TV is barside, reserved for news and sports events.

Celi's Restaurant on the beach is one-half a screened porch with sand floor and one-half a traditional dining room. The restaurant is warmed by wood and wicker, cooled by fans and accented with a ginger lily and bird of paradise flower at each table. The restaurant is open 7:00 to 10:30 am for breakfast (eggs, *huevos rancheros*, omelets, waffles, fruit plate, French toast, etc.) and 5:30 to 9:00 pm

for dinner (lobster, crab, fish, shrimp, chicken, key lime pie, etc.). Celi's Deli, on the first floor facing the street, is open from 6:00 am to 6:00 pm daily (coffee, soft drinks, juices, sandwiches, tacos, burritos, tostadas, tamales, rotisserie chicken, banana bread, etc.). The Tropical Lounge, with Chico at the controls beginning at 8:00 am, is said to be the island's number one gossip spot.

On the hotel dock, just a short stroll from your room, is the Holiday Hotel's dedicated dive operation, the Bottom Time Dive Shop. Owned and managed for the past ten years by is-

(Continued on Page 103)

Adventure Class Live-Aboards

Combining Luxury and Service with Breathtaking Experiences

TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHY BY CARL ROESSLER

As I returned to the surface after shooting an entire roll of the 45th Whale Shark in a week, I said, "Oh, God, I'm tired." Then I saw the gleaming white, powerful *True North* racing over to pick us up. "That's it!" I thought, "This combination of elation, exhaustion and exhilaration is what separates the greatest live-aboards from all the rest!"

Moments later, as we sat in comfortable chairs on our air-conditioned cruiser,

we said, "How can you beat this? No wonder divers are going to live-aboards. Unbelievable animal encounters, a fascinating corner of the world all to yourself and good friends to share the adventure."

For all of those reasons, we find ourselves in the midst of an unprecedented boom in the high-quality segment of the live-aboard market. At the very time when the overall live-aboard industry has spawned too many boats, the really good

ones are succeeding as never before.

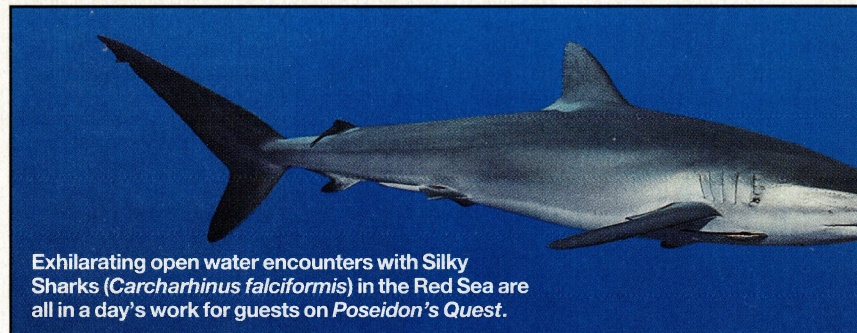
What's going on?

Well, among other things, information technology is finally allowing divers to find out which vessels offer the finest diving, comfort and exemplary service on a consistent basis. Everything from magazines to faxes to phone calls to the Internet's World-Wide Web are carrying information that helps you distinguish the best from the rest. But what kind of diving experience do the industry leaders offer that sets them apart from others?

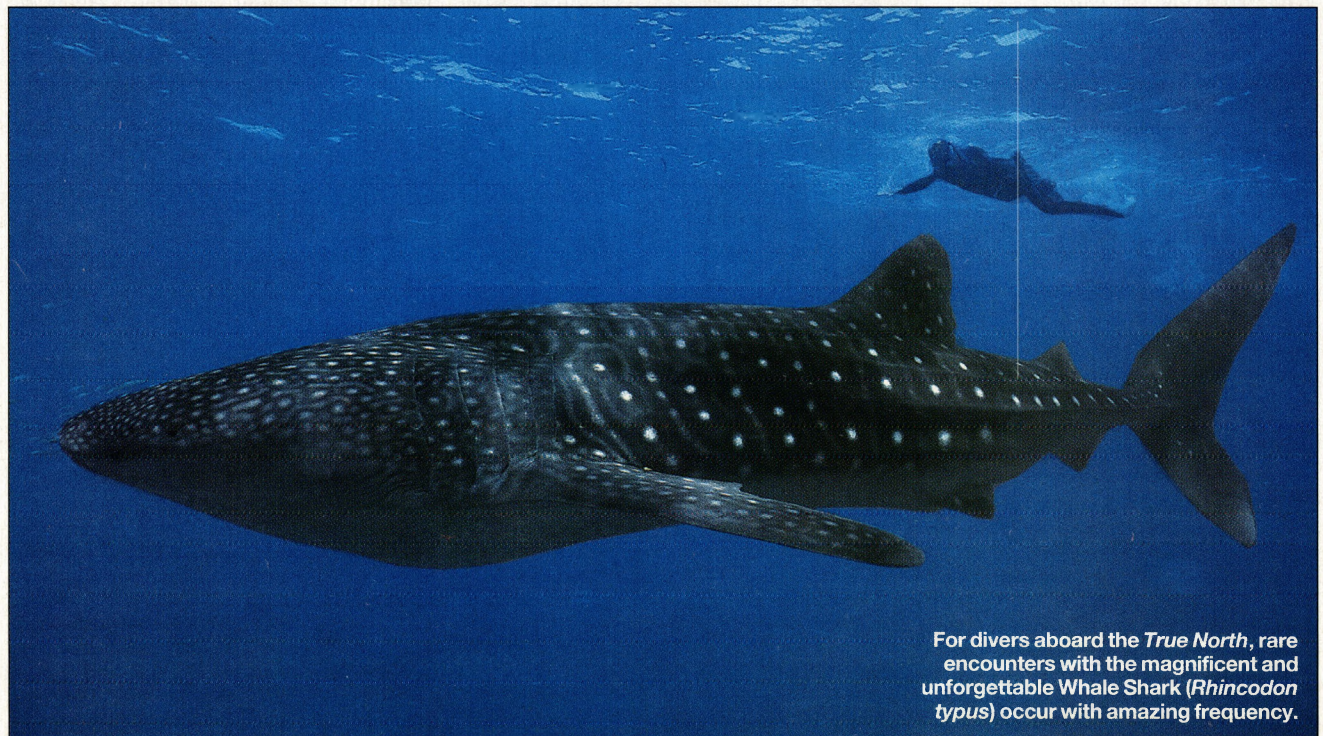
Answering that question can encompass a bewildering variety of experiences. However, if you distill the essence of 100 or more cruises, as I have done, a capsule description emerges. A great live-aboard cruise is a seamless web of three diamond-like facets: 1)

Encounters with awesome animals, 2) Civilized comfort, 3) Hosts whose service and skills you admire.

Examples abound. I recently spent a day diving with magnificent Silky Sharks



Exhilarating open water encounters with Silky Sharks (*Carcharhinus falciformis*) in the Red Sea are all in a day's work for guests on *Poseidon's Quest*.



For divers aboard the *True North*, rare encounters with the magnificent and unforgettable Whale Shark (*Rhincodon typus*) occur with amazing frequency.

from the *Poseidon's Quest* in the Red Sea. The water conditions and the behavior of the sharks was something I will never forget. Yet when I came to the surface thrilled and exhausted there was a hot shower, a cold adult beverage and the living room-like salon of a well-organized ship. Any one of those three elements is, of course, welcome on any live-aboard. All three elements every day define the great ones.

Another example: Diving from *Tiata* in the most remote islands of northern Papua New Guinea. Day after day of encounters with big, graceful Silvertip Sharks, giant groupers, great spirals of Barracuda in the hundreds, massive Dogtooth Tuna and a baby Whale

(Continued on Page 105)



Golden Dawn—Coral Sea



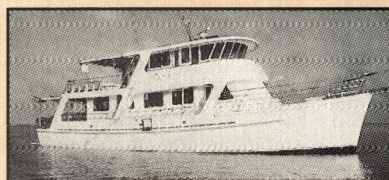
Poseidon's Quest—Red Sea



Telita—Papua New Guinea



True North—West Australia



Tiata—Papua New Guinea

NASSAU • BAHAMAS

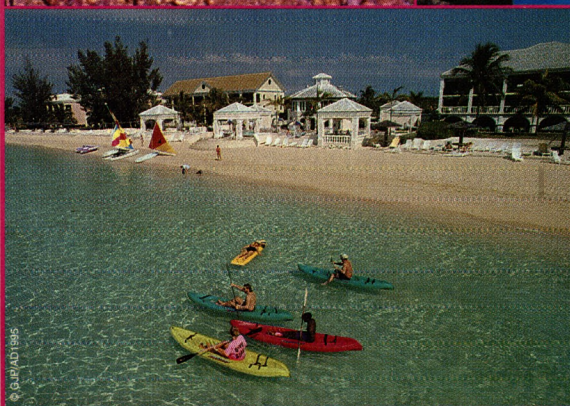
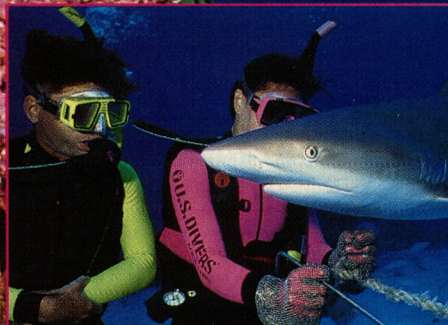
It's all here!

Discover Our Diversity

WINTER SPECIAL

5 nights only **\$529⁰⁰** pp/dbl

• Free upgrade to an all day Out-Island wilderness safari



Beachfront Resort
World Class Diving
Air Conditioned Rooms
Satellite T.V.

IT'S ALL HERE!

Diverse Diving
Walls, Reefs, Wrecks,
Movie Sites, Sharks,
Out Island Seafaris

STUART COVE'S

Dive South Ocean

800-877-7832

fax 305-524-5925 • 809-362-5227
Nassau • Bahamas



El Ocotal

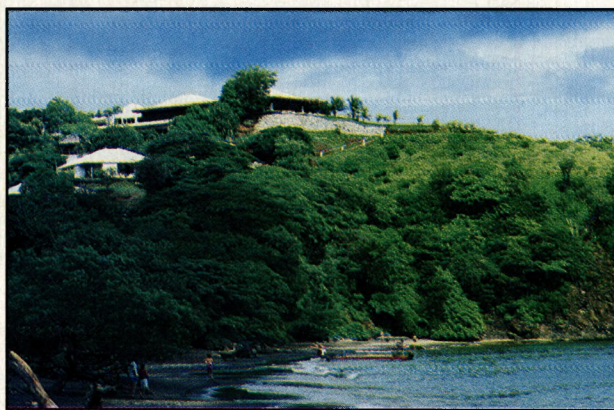
Costa Rica's Premier Dedicated Dive Resort

Sipping my first morning coffee, I surveyed the majestic scene before me. Seated comfortably on the hotel's breakfast patio, I enjoyed a panoramic view of the rugged Guanacaste coastline and blue Pacific. The scene was extraordinary. Two hundred feet below me, ocean waves lapped gently against a rocky shoreline as the sun's rays danced across a calm sea.

For as far as I could see, there was a breathtaking collection of small islands, rocky pinnacles and fertile green vegetation. Here was a piece of the world still untouched by over-commercialization—I could well understand why El Ocotal has become a legend among Central American dive travelers.

Built in 1981, this small, informal resort is quite literally the birthplace of resort diving in Costa Rica. Over the past 15 years, El Ocotal has hosted the avant-

**TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHY
BY GERI MURPHY**



Top: A young Jewfish (*Epinephelus itajara*) that may grow to eight feet permits Bonnie Borkin's close observation. Above: The intimate El Ocotal Beach Resort provides a panoramic view of the Gulf of Papagayo.

garde of travelers who seek offbeat destinations and unusual diving experiences.

El Ocotal, indeed, offers a very different kind of dive vacation than found in the Caribbean and more marine life than you ever dreamed existed. It combines high adventure diving with all the conveniences and comfort you would find back home.

El Ocotal is on Costa Rica's Pacific coast, in the Guanacaste Region—the northwest corner of the country. This area is rich with natural beauty, including untouched forests, pristine beaches and abundant seas. Just a few miles farther north is Santa Rosa National Park, a vast stretch of forest and coastline preserved and protected from real estate development.

Although geographically remote, El Ocotal can be reached easily by one of two ways. Many visitors rent a car in the

capital city of San Jose and make the scenic four hour drive from the mountains to the coast.

A faster but slightly more expensive way to get there is by commuter plane from San Jose to the nearby airport of Liberia. The flight takes a little more than an hour, followed by a short drive to the resort.

THE RESORT

Designed and built as a combination sportfishing and dedicated dive resort, El Ocotal's clientele is now more than 80 percent divers. There are 43 rooms and 250 acres of shorefront land. Most of the rooms are on the hillside overlooking the Pacific Ocean. Rooms include 12 bungalow suites (duplex units), 28 standard rooms and 3 suites. Two of the rooms

are designed for wheelchair guests.

All rooms, suites and bungalows are equipped with color TV via four international satellite stations: CNN, HBO, Cinemax and The Discovery Channel. All rooms are completely air-conditioned and have ceiling fans. Most rooms are equipped with a coffeemaker and an assortment of tea and coffee.

There are three swimming pools on the hotel property. The largest is next to the dining room. Two smaller dip pools are next to the rooms. There is one tennis court that is lighted for nighttime use (it is too hot to play during the day).

The hotel has a large indoor dining room that can be air-conditioned when necessary. Three sides of this room are large glass windows, providing a panoramic view of the Pacific. Breakfast is served on an outdoor patio right in front of the dining room that provides an even more spectacular view. The mornings are cool and comfortable—with no bugs!

Because the hotel is on a vast, 250 acres (formerly a cattle ranch), there is a great deal of natural vegetation, trees and grasslands. This natural environment supports numerous animals, including eight raccoons that show up for break-

fast; at least three large iguanas that live in the trees; and a troop of howler monkeys that moves around the property. Visitors have an opportunity to enjoy nature at its best.

The hotel property slopes down to sea level and includes a considerable stretch of black volcanic sand beach. Moored in a quiet protected bay, 100 yards from the beach, are the hotel's fishing and dive boats.

Since there is no pier or dock to spoil the natural environment, guests and dive gear are loaded onto a flattop that transports them from beach to waiting boats.

THE DIVE OPERATION

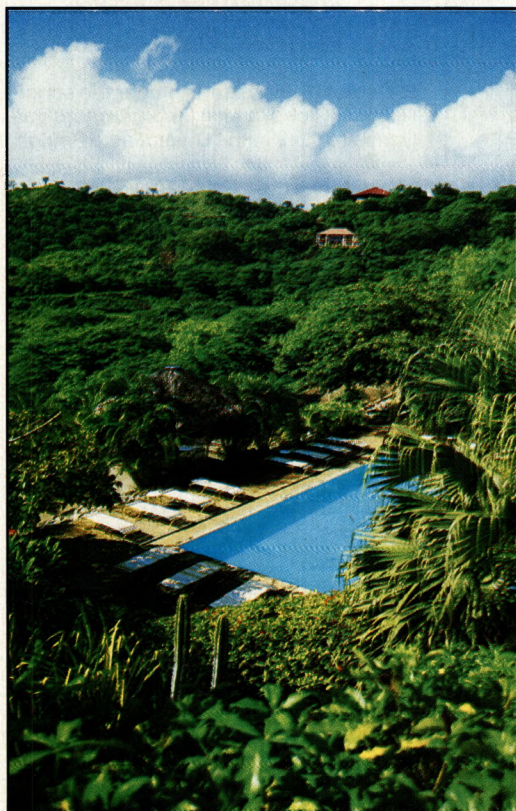
In a grove of trees, not far from the beach, is El Ocotal's own dive center. Operated by a staff of Costa Ricans under the supervision of Rick Wallace, El Ocotal Diving Safaris offers daily trips to some 20 to 30 dive sites in the Guanacaste Region.

El Ocotal has two brand new Mako 13 cfm air compressors, 30 sets of new U.S. Divers gear and two very fast 32 foot, diesel powered dive boats. You can't miss the hotel's boats as the hulls are painted red. Each boat can take 14 divers comfortably. El Ocotal's dive operation is staffed by Costa Rican instructors and divemasters who are very familiar with local waters and reefs.

The normal daily dive routine is a two



Below: The 43 room El Ocotal, enshrouded in tropical foliage, provides luxurious amenities. **Right:** El Ocotal Diving Safaris' 32 foot boat is one of two that transports guests to high energy dive sites.



Below: A standard room at El Ocotal has an exceptional view. **Right:** A raccoon entertains guests with its antics.



Attention Yacht Owners!

- Introducing the **diesel engine** driven version of the UTILUS 10 for SCUBA bottle refilling.
- The new **diesel engine** driven UTILUS 10-D, complete with air purification system and fill hose, weighs just 145 lbs. The unit is designed for the yacht owning scuba diver who wishes to have a compressor on board.
- The unit breaks down into two modules, each with its own handle for transporting.



BAUER
COMPRESSORS

BAUER COMPRESSORS, INC.

1328 Azalea Garden Road • Norfolk, Virginia 23502
Phone (804) 855-6006 • FAX (804) 857-1041

circle #9 on Reader Service Card

Bridge the gap with

DIVERS ACADEMY

Quality training since 1977

of the Eastern Seaboard, Inc.

BECOME A PROFESSIONAL DIVER!



- Surface Air/Mixed Gas Diving
- Hyperbaric Chamber Operation
- Underwater Welding & Burning
- Bridges, Oil Rigs & Power Plants
- Remote Vehicles, U/W Ultrasonics
- Federal Financial Assistance for Qualified Students
- Approved for Veterans Training

CALL TODAY
1-800-238-DIVE

Divers Academy of the Eastern Seaboard, Inc.
2500 Broadway • Camden, NJ 08104 • (609) 966-1871



© AD/SD 1295

EL OCOTAL BEACH RESORT

tank boat trip to nearby reefs—slightly more than one-half day. There are also three tank all day trips to more distant locations such as the Bat or Catalina Islands.

Over the past ten years, El Ocotal has become a hot spot for diving activity and therefore, diving services. In addition to the hotel operation, there are three independent dive services nearby: Mario Vargas Expeditions, Bill Beard's Diving Safaris and Rich Coast Diving Company. Their dive centers are in the neighboring town of Playas del Coco.

THE DIVING

Diving in Costa Rica waters is entirely different than what you might experience in the Caribbean. It is much more like diving in the Sea of Cortez.



El Ocotal Diving Safaris, under the supervision of Rick Wallace (above), offers daily trips to sites in the Guanacaste Region.

While the visibility is generally less (40 to 80 feet) than in the Caribbean, there is much more marine life. This is primarily owing to the nutrient rich waters, the basis of a vast food chain. You encounter schools of thousands of fish at practically every site and the bottom dwellers are far more abundant and exotic.

For example, Costa Rica diving offers an opportunity to encounter and observe at least a dozen different moray species—compared to the three or four of the Caribbean. It is not uncommon to see Jewel, Snowflake, Zebra, Panamic Green and Whitemouth Morays all on the same dive.

Diving comfort is on par with the Caribbean. During the summer months the water temperature can range from 74 to 80°F, requiring little more than a dive suit made of Polartec. During the winter months, the water temperature is slightly cooler—ranging from 74 to 76°F. A word of caution however; there can be

thermoclines at deeper depths from 80 to 120 feet.

As for type of diving, there are no vertical walls or drop-offs. Instead, there are rocky pinnacles and submerged reefs that can start close to the surface and slope to 150 feet. Much of the best diving and high voltage action occurs in the 40 to 90 foot zone.

Costa Rica does not have vast coral reef formations. Instead there are small clusters of corals growing on the rocky contour of the seafloor. These include isolated formations of both soft and hard corals.

What makes Costa Rica so special is the opportunity for adventurous diving. On practically any site you may encounter all sorts of large marine animals, including Whale Sharks, schools of Cow Rays, Giant Mantas, Killer Whales, Sailfish, Eagle Rays and numerous other pelagics.

DIVE SITES

During our brief visit we dived nine different sites and experienced an amazing variety of marine life. The following are just a few of the highlights:

At **Shark Place**, we found six Whitetip Reef Sharks lying on the sand bottom in 60 feet of water. Nearby, we found a Banded Guitarfish and an Orange Frogfish. At **Punta Gorda**, we encountered a giant school of Spottail Grunts—perhaps

EL OCOTAL BEACH RESORT INFORMATION AND RESERVATIONS

You can book your El Ocotal dive vacation through one of the many dive travel specialists or contact the resort direct.

Adventure Express

(800) 443-0799
(415) 442-0799

Go Diving

(800) 328-5285
(612) 931-9101

Ocean Connection

(713) 996-7800

Poseidon Ventures Tours

(800) 854-9334
(714) 644-5344

PADI Travel Network

(800) 729-7234 x2
(714) 540-7234 x2

Tropical Adventures Travel

(800) 247-3483
(206) 441-3483

Tropical Concepts

(800) 749-DIVE
(713) 789-3483

El Ocotal Beach Resort

Apdo 1 Playas del Coco
Guanacaste, Costa Rica
011-506-670-0323
011-506-670-0083 (fax)

Twice the fun... Half the cost!



You won't find a better diving value. We provide an exciting package at about half the cost of most other live-aboard dive trips. We include:

- food • beverages (soda, beer, wine & rum drinks)
- accommodations • tanks • weight belts

On a typical trip to the Bahamas you will be able to enjoy:

- 3 dives a day • island exploration • fishing • sailing
- shell collecting • out island nightlife • lobster hunts
- virgin diving • lazy days

Write or
call: **Blackbeard's**
CRUISES

P.O. Box 66-1091, Miami, FL 33266
Toll Free (800) 327-9600 • (305) 888-1226 • Fax (305) 884-4214

BAYMAN BAY CLUB

Guanaja - Bay Islands - Honduras



- Dive into Nature
- Snorkeling
- Fish & Coral
- Jungle Sounds
- Island Hikes
- Kayaks
- Dockside moonlight

Ahh...Another Day at
Bayman Bay

WINTER &
HOLIDAYS

\$899⁰⁰

Excludes Air and 7% Govt. Tax

THE ADVENTURE AWAITS YOU...
CALL 1-800-524-1823

PH: 305-572-1902 • FAX: 305-572-1907

© SD/AD 1995

circle #129 on Reader Service Card

THERE IS NO COMPARISON!! MV BILIKIKI AND MV SPIRIT of SOLOMONS offer you the best of world class diving in Solomon Islands

- 120 ft. of air conditioned comfort
- Staterooms with full double bed and private facilities

- 14 years knowledge of Solomon dive sites
- E6 Processing



M.V. Bilikiki



M.V. Spirit of Solomon

- Diving • Food • Value for money • From \$215.00 pp/per night
- All rated 5★★★★★ by Undercurrent

Bilikiki Cruises Ltd. PO Box 876, Honiara, Solomon Islands Ph 011 (677) 20412 Fx 011 (677) 23897



**Bilikiki
Cruises
Ltd.**

In U.S. & Canada
800-663-5363
Ph: 604-383-7253
Fax: 604-383-6598

Video Available

**Dive & Adventure
Travel**
**LANDFALL
PRODUCTIONS**
Solomons #1 Travel
Expert

800-525-3833
CA: 510-794-1599
Fax: 510-794-1617

DIVE DISCOVERY
Complete
dive and
adventure
travel

800-886-7321
CA: 415-256-8890
Fax: 415-258-9115

**Solomon
Airlines**

800-677-4277
CA: 310-670-7302
Fax: 310-338-0708

EL OCOTAL BEACH RESORT

1,000 to 2,000 fish. There were also two rare Longnose Hawkfish. On the same site, we met a Panamic Green Moray, plus an assortment of Stone Scorpionfish, Threebanded Butterflyfish and a Panama Graysby.

At **Scorpion Place**, we encountered a friendly Jewfish that posed on the sand for pictures. Nearby was a school of Pacific Spadefish and another giant school of Spottail Grunts. The rocky bottom was littered with Jewel and Snowflake Morays—sometimes both in the same crevice.

At **Catalina Island** we saw at least six Whitetip Reef Sharks in one spot in a rock channel. We also met a large school of jacks and a school of Cow Rays. At **Aquarium**, we found another school of Spottail Grunts plus a marvelous collection of reef residents that included a Flag Cabrilla, juvenile Cortez Angelfish, Spotted Sharpnose Puffer, a Panamic Porkfish and numerous Balloonfish. Perhaps the most amazing sight was a school of 15 King Angelfish feeding on the eggs of a damselfish. Just then, a large Ridley Turtle zoomed by.

At **Surprise**, we encountered a Nurse Shark, school of jacks, another school of grunts, plus an assortment of groupers, coney and puffers. **Los Meros** yielded a memorable prize—a pair of male and female Harlequin Shrimp carving up a starfish. The two shrimp were marked with dazzling patterns—one pink, the other blue. Although the site is shallow, it supports a large school of grunts, numerous Spotted Pufferfish and a huge collection of small morays.

Argentine Point is a tumble of giant granite boulders that provides a safe haven for resident reef fish. Here we encountered an Eagle Ray plus a large collection of morays, a Giant Hawkfish, a Jewel Moray, a Stone Scorpionfish and a Spotted Green Puffer. At the world renowned **Big Scare**, we saw a resident community of five Bull Sharks. These large, hefty animals cruised close to the bottom at 70 to 80 feet, sometimes coming close enough for a photograph.

The Guanacaste Region of Costa Rica is a large section of coastline with some 30 to 50 dive sites located and identified. More are discovered all the time.

Visitors are likely to encounter all sorts of strange and unusual creatures, many of them quite exciting. During the summer months, visitors often see 30 to 40 foot long Whale Sharks, pods of four to six Killer Whales and occasional groups of 50 black Pilot Whales. In the fall, divers sometimes encounter huge schools of up to 4,000 Bat Rays. From

December to July, there are frequent encounters with Giant Manta Rays—with wingspans ranging from 12 to 20 feet. Other strange and exotic animal encounters include Sailfish measuring nearly 10 feet long, all sorts of sea turtles, a black and yellow striped sea snake and schools of up to 100 Mobula Rays. Costa Rica is indeed the fishbowl of Central America.

GETTING THERE

You can fly to San Jose nonstop from Miami, Houston or Los Angeles. There are also direct flights from New York, New Orleans and Orlando. You can fly there on American, Continental, United, TACA, Lacs or many other airlines.

Overnighting in San Jose is easy at one of the city's many excellent hotels. I like the Hampton Inn-Costa Rica because it is reasonably priced and close to the airport (about two minutes). The inn offers free transport to and from the airport and provides a free continental breakfast starting at 6:10 am. This hotel seems to cater to American visitors.

The next morning, you can rent a car and drive to El Ocotol (three and a half to four hours) or take advantage of the resort's airport reception and ground transfers via mini-bus (included in the dive package). I prefer the quick flight. Aero Costa Sol will pick you up in its courtesy van, transport you to the airport and fly you to Guanacaste in a little less than one hour. It operates a fleet of commuter aircraft, including a seven passenger Navajo, five passenger Aztec and a new, 15 seat Otter. You land at Liberia airport—a short ride to the hotel. The trip is easy and comfortable.

HOW TO BOOK

Booking a vacation at El Ocotol Beach Resort is relatively easy since the hotel is well known to most dive travel specialists. Our sidebar lists the major travel specialists that currently book the hotel and diving, as well as air transportation. 🐠

UWATEC'S DATATRAK

(Continued from Page 9)

The Aladin Nitrox is even more sophisticated than the Air X. It, too, is a hoseless, interactive unit but one specifically designed for diving with nitrox. Besides performing all the functions of the Air X, it can be programmed for breathing gas mixtures from 21 to 50 percent oxygen and will adjust bottom times to the gas mixture being used. Also, this computer has an oxygen toxicity warning display.

CONCLUSION

Workaday world getting you down? Use Uwatec's DataTrak to relive that wonderful

At D.I.T. you're on...

THE CUTTING EDGE



Photo by: Mike Massey, DIT

...as a Commercial Diver

- Job placement assistance
- Open water 200' dives
- Natural work environment
- Use of current equipment
- Eligible institution under Federal financial aid program
- Approved for V.A. assistance

CALL TODAY FOR YOUR CAREER PACKAGE



1-800-634-8377

U.S. and
Canada

In Seattle, call: (206) 783-5542

DIVERS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

"Established 1968"

Seattle, WA

dive & explore Magnificent Micronesia!

Experience our **new** SCUBA adventures that give you **plenty of bottom time.**

\$1,421.00*

Truk & Palau 10 days 16 dives

Micronesian scuba sampler

Other exciting dive packages available, including cultural experience tours.

*Based on per person, double occ. Includes hotel, boat dives w/ guide, wts. tanks & dive lunches, transfers & land tour.



Visit us at
DEMA Booth
#1836!



The possibilities are endless.

1-800-245-4129 • (671) 649-4221 Fax

circle #24 on Reader Service Card

© SDAD 1995

Ready for a career as a PADI Instructor?

Learn from the man who wrote the book.

Alex Brylske : educator, Technical Editor of Dive Training magazine, former Program Development Manager at PADI Headquarters and author of the PADI IDC, Divemaster and Rescue Diver Courses.

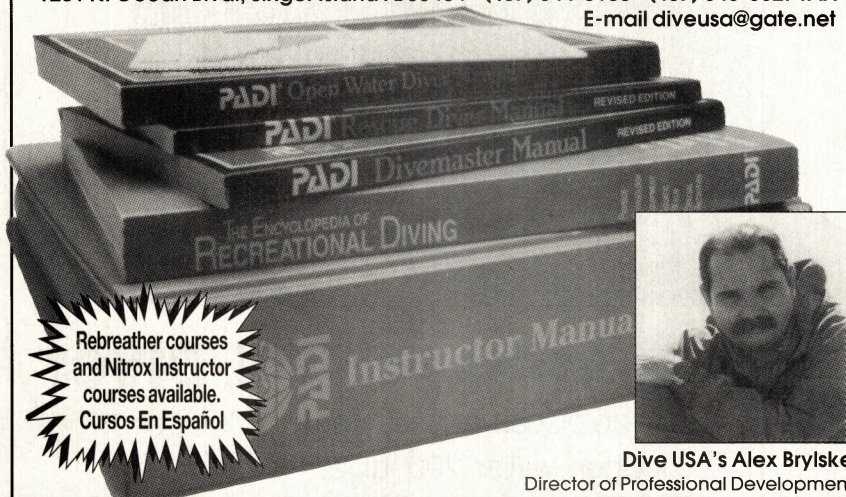
DIVE USA
Underwater Schools of America
A Division of Ocean Sports

Call Today:

(800) DIVE US1

1201 N. Ocean Blvd., Singer Island FL 33404 • (407) 844-5100 • (407) 848-0627 FAX

E-mail diveusa@gate.net



Rebreather courses
and Nitrox Instructor
courses available.
Cursos En Español

Dive USA's Alex Brylske

Director of Professional Development

circle #7 on Reader Service Card

Coral Reefs Hate
Standing Ovations!



DIVE MONA ISLAND



Dive exciting Mona Island on 2 day excursions out of Puerto Real, Puerto Rico. Whale watching, pelagics & more for the **AMAZINGLY LOW PRICE OF \$250.** (3 Days \$325). The 140' long Viking Starship has Navy-style berthing, is limited to 35 divers and is the only vessel visiting the Caribbean's newest dive destination—Mona Island. This no-frills cruise is for the adventure-minded diver willing to forego a little luxury for great diving.

Call Now for Info & Booking

800-877-3202

809-823-7010-FAX 809-823-7068

P.O. Box 717, Rincon, P.R. 00677

Viking Starship

UWATEC'S DATATRAK

dive with your buddy (and your Aladin computer) in the Galapagos, the Red Sea, California's kelp forests—or the quarry just down the road. The DataTrak/ DataTalk package includes a floppy disk, a cable for connecting an Aladin dive computer to your PC (two tiny terminals plug into equally tiny ports on the computer) and a 64 page *Operating Manual*. The package sells for \$150.

DATATRAK SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

- IBM or IBM compatible PC
- 80386 or 80486 processor recommended
- 640 KB RAM (2 MB recommended)
- VGA graphics board
- 2 MB hard disk space available
- Mouse

Dive clubs or other group travelers will be interested in the DataBank, a unit capable of storing 65 hours of dive time from an unlimited number of Aladin users. The divers download data from their Aladins into the DataBank, which is about the size of a computer mouse. This allows each person to log his/her dives during a live-aboard or other vacation without having to bring a PC on the trip.

For the name of an Uwatec dealer near you contact the company at One Marcus Drive, Suite 201, Greenville, SC 29615; (800) 804-DIVE or fax (803) 281-9258.

DIVE MEDICINE

(Continued from Page 14)

bubbles and predict decompression sickness. Studies from NASA indicate that automated computer analysis may ultimately provide a means to have continuous monitoring of decompression. Studies from Canada indicate that Doppler bubble measurements are a good indicator of risk for DCS.

A group of 50 commercial divers in England were studied over several years to detect long term effects of diving. Most had exposures to either saturation diving or at least 50 working dives to 100 feet or deeper. None had decompression sickness in these dives. They demonstrated minor changes in neurologic function on detailed testing but none of these abnormal results had any immediate effects on quality of life. The investigators concluded these diving exposures were causing some injury to the central nervous system.

Studies from the University of Wis-

DIVING FREEDOM²...



CAPTAIN DON'S HABITAT BONAIRE N.A.

HABITAT IS DIVING - first and foremost. Incredible 24-hour shore diving is just 90 feet from Habitat's pier. Our world-class reefs are lush, alive and thriving with sea life and our boats are uncrowded. Habitat is praised as a divers paradise by novices and experienced divers alike. Accommodations include your choice of oceanfront villas, rooms, junior suites and cottages. Overlooking our reefs, you'll relax and enjoy our oceanfront restaurant, bar, pool and beach.



HABITAT CURACAO CURACAO N.A.



Located on the Southwest coast of Curacao, just minutes away from the best diving sites on the island, Habitat Curacao offers 56 oceanfront deluxe junior suites with kitchens, a multi-terraced restaurant and bar, swimming pool and free town shuttle. The dive operation is a PADI training and instructor development center offering boat and beach dives daily and 24-hour unlimited shore diving.

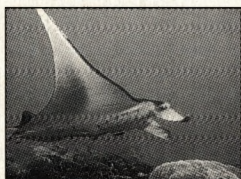
800-327-6709

Ask about our group programs and special air fares from most cities.

circle #57 on Reader Service Card

POSEIDON PARTNERSHIP IN QUALITY DIVE TRAVEL

YAP-MANTA MAGIC YAP-MANTA MAGIC YAP-MANTA MAGIC



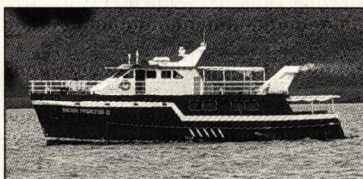
MANTA RAY HOTEL & YAP DIVERS

Manta Magic and more - outer drop-offs offer crystal clear reefs teeming with tropical fish, eels, lionfish, turtles and sharks to entice any discerning diver. Enjoy the amenities of a **Divers Hotel** and a full service **Dive Center**.

Special!! 5 Night, 5 Days diving Pkg includes 1 free dive day and 10% cost savings

Continental Airlines

FIJI FIJI FIJI FIJI FIJI FIJI FIJI FIJI FIJI FIJI FIJI FIJI



85' MATAGI PRINCESS II

Experience one of the finest live-aboards anywhere. **World class** diving and **5 Star** comfort. Explore some of the diverse and pristine dive sites in Fiji's Northern waters - a stunning underwater spectrum of soft coral and fishlife. Dive the spectacular **Great White Wall**, and other unforgettable sites.

AIR PACIFIC
FIJI'S INTERNATIONAL AIRLINE

**4, 5 & 7
NIGHT TRIPS**
from \$265 day

PAPUA NEW GUINEA PAPUA NEW GUINEA PAPUA NEW GUINEA



72' FEBRINA

Five Star Diving and Five Star dive boat from New Britain to Kavieng across the Bismark Sea. Spectacular diving on reefs with superb visibility and prolific fish life which have been rarely visited by diver or photographers.

Once in a lifetime trips -
7 to 10 night-trips at \$300/day.
"Every Dive is a new experience"

QANTAS
THE AUSTRALIAN AIRLINE

Poseidon Ventures Tours

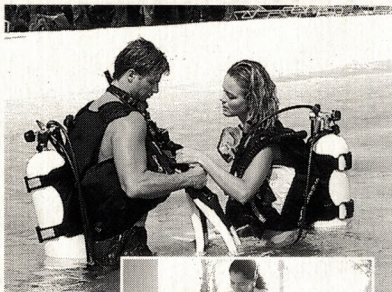
800-854-9334

(714) 644-5344

Fax: (714) 644-5392

BONAIRE, DUTCH CARIBBEAN

Ask...



Great Adventures

AT HARBOUR VILLAGE

Bonaire

Phone Today For Dive Package Details

Toll Free: **800-868-7477** Phone: (305) 567-0349 Fax: (305) 567-9659

On our next dive vacation, can we **explore** exciting underwater sites? Can we **bask** in the luxury of a **world-class** resort with affordable dive package rates? Can we choose from three on-site **restaurants**? Can we expect to find a **top notch** dive shop run by knowledgeable dive **professionals**? Can we also

and you shall receive.

have a private white sand **beach** to stroll? And, we'd like a **swimming pool** and a waterside **sundeck**. How about access to **tennis courts** and a full service **spa** with a **jacuzzi**? And, while we're at it, would it be too much to ask for a **massage**?

7 Night Package
\$1095 pp/dbl.
thru 4/13/96

circle #68 on Reader Service Card

WORLD CLASS WALLS



18 New Deluxe Oceanfront Rooms With Cable TV, Telephones, & Refrigerators

Plunge into a sea of aqua and sapphire. Descend through streams of tropical sunshine in our crystal clear waters. While below, the shallows reveal more than twenty miles of the most spectacular vertical walls in the Caribbean.

Submit to the exhilaration...you're a guest of the Riding Rock Inn.

For twenty years this secluded resort has been dedicated exclusively to those who love to dive. When you combine Riding Rock's distinguished staff, complete photo facility and over fifty dive sites, with the finest food and accommodations, you'll have everything to make the perfect diving vacation.

RIDING ROCK INN

San Salvador, Bahamas

Wall-to-Wall Diving

Without Wall-to-Wall People

Call for our brochure:

800-272-1492

(305) 359-8353

© SD/AD 1995



DIVE MEDICINE

consin on the relation of bottom time to the type of DCS provide some interesting information on the causes of DCS. They compared short, deep exposures (30 minutes to 1 hour at 100 to 130 feet) to long, shallower exposures (three to four hours at 60 to 80 feet) in sheep. Although the incidence of DCS was lower in the short, deep dives, there was more spinal cord DCS (Type II) in the deep group, while the shallow group had more DCS in the joints (Type I). The sport diving model is the short, deep dive, which is more likely to produce DCS of the spinal cord than pain in a joint. This information indicates that sport divers will rarely experience joint pain as a manifestation of DCS and should be aware of changes in sensation such as numbness, pins and needles, muscle weakness or abnormal bladder function. These changes are indicators of injury to the spinal cord.

Several studies from England provide useful information about sport diving. One indicated that with neurologic injury involving the lower extremities, only 44 percent of cases resolve without residual injury after treatment. The other study came from a survey of 2,250 divers, 45 percent of whom were women. Of particular interest were the findings: (1) that males had 2.6 times more decompression sickness than females and (2) that there was no increase in the incidence of spontaneous abortion in 142 women who dived while pregnant. This latter finding is helpful because an older study suggested there might be an increase in the incidence of spontaneous abortion in women sport divers. We still recommend that women who are pregnant avoid diving. This is based on the unknown effects of inert gas and increased oxygen on the developing fetus.

We presented a study of heart abnormalities following barotrauma and arterial gas embolism. There are several indications from the ECG that can be used to predict the severity of the air embolism. These changes can mimic a heart attack and should not lead physicians into misdiagnosing AGE because of the changes in the ECG. When a diver has typical symptoms of arterial gas embolism shortly after ascent from a dive the treatment should be for embolism, even if a heart problem is being considered.

Data on the injury rate in PADI instructors showed an overall low risk while teaching. There were a total of four fatal and 45 non-fatal injuries during five years of work among 55,387 instructors. The risk of decompression sickness was 0.000045 percent. In contrast, the risk of

decompression sickness among hyperbaric chamber tenders is about 0.076 percent. This is often owing to the need to perform deep dives in a chamber when treating a serious diving related illness.

In addition to the papers on diving medicine and physiology, there were many papers on the medical use of hyperbaric oxygen. Applications for the treatment of carbon monoxide poisoning, a variety of infections and non-healing wounds were described.

An important theme evident in this meeting was the consensus that prohibitions to diving should be reviewed in light of modern treatment of illnesses such as diabetes and asthma. There is a realization that many individuals are diving with these disorders with no apparent increase in risk. 🐟

IKELITE'S RECHARGEABLE RCD

(Continued from Page 11)

charger jack. The 4.7 volt halogen bulb creates a super bright 18 watts of power! Combined with the RCD HR reflector, this provides an incredibly bright center beam with wide angle peripheral illumi-

RCD HR SPECIFICATIONS

Size: 4 x 6"
Weight in air: 2.6 lbs.
 (with batteries)
Weight in water: Slightly negative
Lamp: 4.7 volt halogen
Wattage: 18
Beam type: High intensity
 floodlight
Batteries: Special 5.2 volt
 nickel-cadmium pack
Burn time: 1.25 hours
Depth rating: 300 feet
Price: \$170
 (includes 110/220 volt, 6 hour charger)

nation. The only drawback to all this intense light is the burn time, about 1.25 hours. This light is also available in seven colors and sells for \$170 (with charger). The RCD HR charger can be operated on either 110 or 220 volt power and will fully charge the battery pack in six hours.

CONCLUSION

Rugged, powerful, easy to handle, easy to open and hard to flood, the RCD lights are in a performance league of their own. Available accessories include spare bulbs and a special vinyl wrist lanyard you can break in an emergency.

You can examine the RCDs and an array of other excellent lights at your local Ikelite dealer. For the address of the dealer nearest you contact Ikelite Underwater Systems, 50 West 33rd Street, Indianapolis, IN 46208; (317) 923-4523. 🐟

Take a Good Look at ICDI



There are many diving schools that offer good training. But is training all you are really looking for? Aren't you actually looking for the opportunity for success?

At ICDI, we can transform your will to succeed into quality training for a successful career in commercial diving. And isn't that what it's all about?

Take a good look at one of the most comprehensive training programs in the business.

- Inland Diver Training
- Oil Field Diver Training

- Approved for the Training of Veterans
- Air/Mixed-Gas Diving
- Unparalleled Safety Program
- Affordable Tuition
- Student Housing
- Financing for Qualified Applicants
- Job Placement Assistance.

If not just any diving school will do, if you demand and expect quality training and career performance -- take a good look at ICDI...you'll like what you see.

Call today for more information or set up a tour at our Wilmington, DE training facility. Class space is limited.

800.964.ICDI



MEMBER ADC



550 South Madison Street Wilmington, Delaware 19801



MEMBER ACDE

Dive with the "Best of the Best!"

Dive Team Hawaii

Big Island: Kona Coast Divers
800-562-3483

Oahu: Atlantis Reef Divers
800-554-6267

Kauai: Fathom Five Divers
800-972-3078

Maui: Lahaina Divers
800-998-3483

Call us for a **Free Brochure!**

circle #6 on Reader Service Card

SKIN DIVER JANUARY 1996 69

Dive the Mystical Mayan Barrier Reef

Dive Adventures

*From Cozumel, Mexico and
Ambergris Caye, Belize to
the Bay Islands, Honduras*

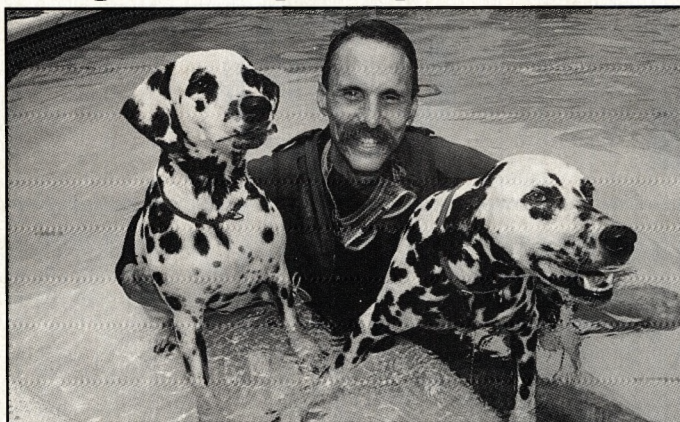
800-327-2254

BARBACHANO
Tours Since 1921

circle #83 on Reader Service Card

BRUCE BOWKER'S CARIB INN BONAIRE

Have we got some great spots for you to dive!



CARIB INN

P.O. Box 68 • Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles

Telephone (011) 599-7-8819

Fax (011) 599-7-5295

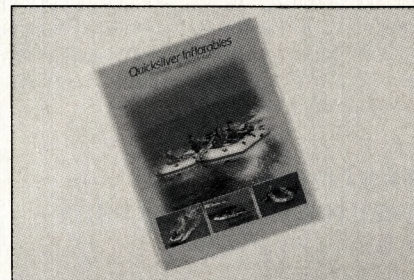
Reservations - 8am - 5pm daily. FAX 24 hours

E-mail: 75317.667@compuserve.com

circle #58 on Reader Service Card

CMAS MANUALS NOW AVAILABLE

The Confederation Mondiale des Activités Subaquatiques' (CMAS—the World Underwater Federation) scuba diving instructor and diver manuals and information packets are now available in the U.S. The CMAS scuba diver information packet includes a standards and requirements manual; diver training program manual; code of conduct; informational brochure; and the CMAS/USAUF informational article. The packet also includes



two articles written by Bjorn Thorsen, president of the CMAS Technical Commission, a CMAS diver and instructor crossover form and the materials information sheet. The instructor packet includes all of the above materials plus the student registration form, instructor/organization materials order form and the CMAS/other agency crossover equivalence table. Either packet (available for \$25 U.S.) should answer all questions concerning CMAS and its programs and may be ordered direct from USAUF.

If you are interested in obtaining packets or information concerning CMAS scuba diving training programs, certifications, crossovers or CMAS materials, please write to USAUF, attention: Diane, P.O. Box 13754, Gainesville, Florida 32604; (904) 392-0584 or (904) 392-8008. 🐡

TROPICAL TOURS, INC.

Two well respected names in the dive travel industry have announced formation of a new wholesale tour company. Arthur and Michelle Shore, formerly with Tropical Concepts, Inc., have formed Tropical Tours, Inc.

Tropical Tours, in Houston, Texas, specializes in wholesale travel to the world's favorite dive destinations—Mexico, Belize, Honduras, Netherlands Antilles, the Cayman Islands and more. Inclusive packages and customized itineraries are available. Tropical Tours is a fully accredited ticketing facility offering air inclusive packages at competitive prices.

To make your dive dreams come true, write to Tropical Tours, Inc., 15844 FM529, Houston, Texas 77095 or call (713) 855-6900, (800) 711-4700; fax (713) 855-9139. 🐡

© SD/AD 1995



I just saw a grouper
this big.

We believe. Because diving Key Largo is more than a superb variety of marine life. It's the miraculous visibility of North America's only living coral reef.

Of course, the clear waters also help you explore our many wrecks and artificial reefs. Which reinforces that Key Largo is the diving capital of the world. And that's not just our word. It's gospel. Call your travel agent today. For more information call 1-800-822-1088.

D I V E
KEY LARGO

Stay down longer in The Florida Keys

circle #89 on Reader Service Card

YAP

...It's a Whole Different World.

**A Series of Actual
DiveLog Excerpts:**

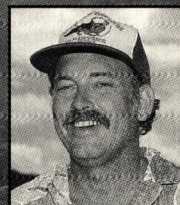
"Thank you and your team for a wonderful week of diving. We were very well looked after in and out of the water. This is a vacation we will not forget in a long, long time. We can not say exactly when but:
WE'LL BE BACK!"

—Craig Sills
Pusan, Korea

Encounter some of the most haunting and majestic of earth's creatures living along the 900 miles of virgin tropical barrier reef that have made Yap legendary in the diving world! Call me today and ask about our 5 night/5day dive package!

—Bill Acker, owner

**Mantas
Guaranteed!**



©SDAD 1995



Manta Ray Bay Hotel & Yap Divers

Ph: 011-691-350-2300 Fax: 011-691-350-4567/3841

circle #61 on Reader Service Card

JEAN-MICHEL COUSTEAU

Environmental Essay Competition



Essay winners Shauna Powell (left) and Denison Miller (right) expressed a keen awareness and desire to preserve Cayman's fragile undersea environment.

May We Have The Envelope Please?

BY JEAN-MICHEL COUSTEAU
PHOTOGRAPHY BY GERI MURPHY

The Cayman Islands live from the sea. They are tiny, arid outposts that depend on tourism for prosperity. To envision the future of the Caymans and to make plans for it, you have to understand the sea. So why not take tomorrow's Caymanians underwater? That's just what we did.

I spent one week diving and exploring with Shauna Powell and Denison Miller, two perceptive and articulate young Caymanians, age 13. They were selected on the basis of an island-wide environmental essay contest. As we set sail aboard the *Cayman Aggressor III*, a

unique excitement buoyed the crew. It was as if we adults were all children again, possessed once more of that marvelous curiosity that makes a young person's world such a magical place.

Through my work on educational CD-ROMs, I have become familiar with this feeling. It is the lure of interactivity. To create products for young minds, you have to adopt the mind-set of young people. Today's young men and women are not content to stare passively at a screen and be force-fed a steady diet of predigested facts and figures. They want to participate in the process of discovery. They

want to get information on their own terms. Their methods may seem chaotic and unsystematic at first but that's only because we adults have accepted the proposition that there is only one way to skin a cat. The interactive world is wide open and must stay that way.

It was with this in mind that we entered the water. The young people explored this way and that, following their instincts. Here they got to know the residents of Stingray City, as well as Molly the Manta and Freddy the Grouper, animals more familiar to foreigners than to locals. Our young divers were hungry for knowledge.



Preparing to dive, Shauna (above left) and Denison (center) will co-host a portion of Jean-Michel's latest filming expedition.

JEAN-MICHEL COUSTEAU ENVIRONMENTAL ESSAY CONTEST

(Effects on Community)

1) Motivated 60 Caymanian school children—between the ages of 12 and 18—to think about, research and write essays on Cayman's environment.

2) Allowed the two winners to learn scuba and actually interact with the fish and wildlife of the Cayman Islands. The two children saw Southern Stingrays, a Manta Ray, angelfish, yellowtails and groupers underwater; an iguana, ducks and other birds on land.

3) Brought the two winners, Caymanian high school students, together with Jean-Michel and the Hon. Thomas Jefferson (Cayman's Minister of Tourism), for a week's tour of Grand Cayman's and Little Cayman's underwater attractions.

Shauna and Denison have explored the wet and wild foundation of the Caymans' prosperity. They have seen how fragile that foundation is. They now understand that these resources must be protected. They have taken the first step toward saving the golden goose of the Cayman Islands. 🐟

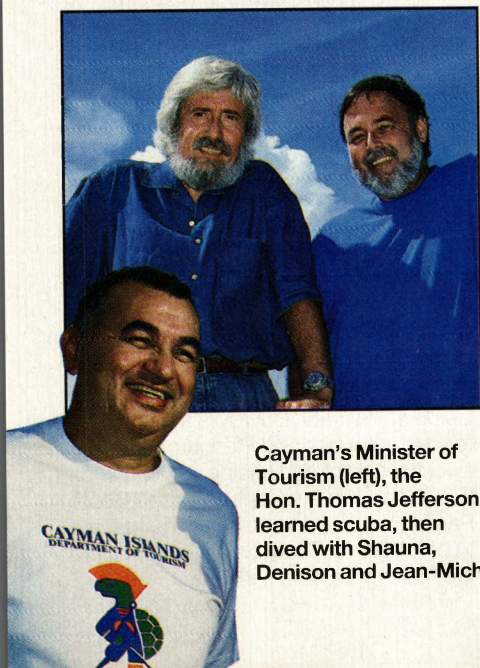
Excerpts from Denison's Essay:

"The Cayman Islands need to...ensure that the marine environment is properly managed and protected. Caymanians, both old and young...need to be educated on the importance of preserving Cayman's marine resources....In fact, protection of the marine life must be an integral part of the schools' curriculum and young people must feel a sense of pride that the sea is a way of life for these islands....the impression must be given that the Cayman Islands are serious about its marine environment and will seek at all times to protect it."

Name Denison E. Miller

School St. Ignatius High School

Career Plans Surgeon



Jean-Michel Cousteau (left) and the instigator of the essay contest, Aggressor International's Wayne Hasson.

Excerpts from Shauna's Essay:

"...I think we should stop concentrating on materialistic things and instead concentrate on our natural resources, which might soon disappear....I am glad the government has realized how important saving the islands' marine environment is and the marine parks are a positive step toward saving the marine life....Although we have done a lot...we still need to do more. We must join together, not fight against each other. Maybe together we still have a chance to save the marine life for us and other generations to come. Let's start today, to save Cayman for tomorrow."

Name Shauna Powell

School St. Ignatius High School

Career Plans Pediatrician

Cayman's Minister of Tourism (left), the Hon. Thomas Jefferson, learned scuba, then dived with Shauna, Denison and Jean-Michel.

Scenery to dive for.

800-255-6425

Luxurious adventure in the world's most spectacular waters.

Everyday, Red Sail Sports takes divers to the best dive spots in the Caribbean and Pacific. Divers choose from three dive meccas including Cayman's incredible walls, the lava flows in Hawaii and exciting wrecks in Aruba.

Red Sail Sports regularly scheduled dives feature custom-built dive boats, the latest equipment, fresh water showers and chilled fruit and juice. Our experienced dive instructors will ensure that your trip is the perfect combination of adventure and luxury.

We arrange a variety of hotel and diving packages from budget to first-class accommodations starting at \$288 for a 4 day/3 night stay. Call today, 800-255-6425!

Hotel rate example is for the Seaview Hotel in Grand Cayman, per person based on double occupancy, 5/1-10/15/96.

American Airlines®
Something special in the air.®

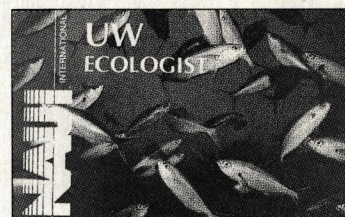
red sail sports®

ARUBA THE BAHAMAS CURAÇAO GRAND CAYMAN HAWAII

circle #104 on Reader Service Card

NEW NAUI C-CARDS FOR SPECIALTY COURSES

If you want to expand your diving horizons, one of the best ways to do it is to take a NAUI Specialty Diving Course in Wreck Diving, Underwater Ecology or Diver Rescue. These courses are open to divers from any instructional agency, it is not necessary to be NAUI certified.



Each course includes both classroom and open water training. All NAUI courses use the latest NAUI audio/visual training systems to maximize your learning and enjoyment. The courses are fun and it's a great way to meet new dive buddies.

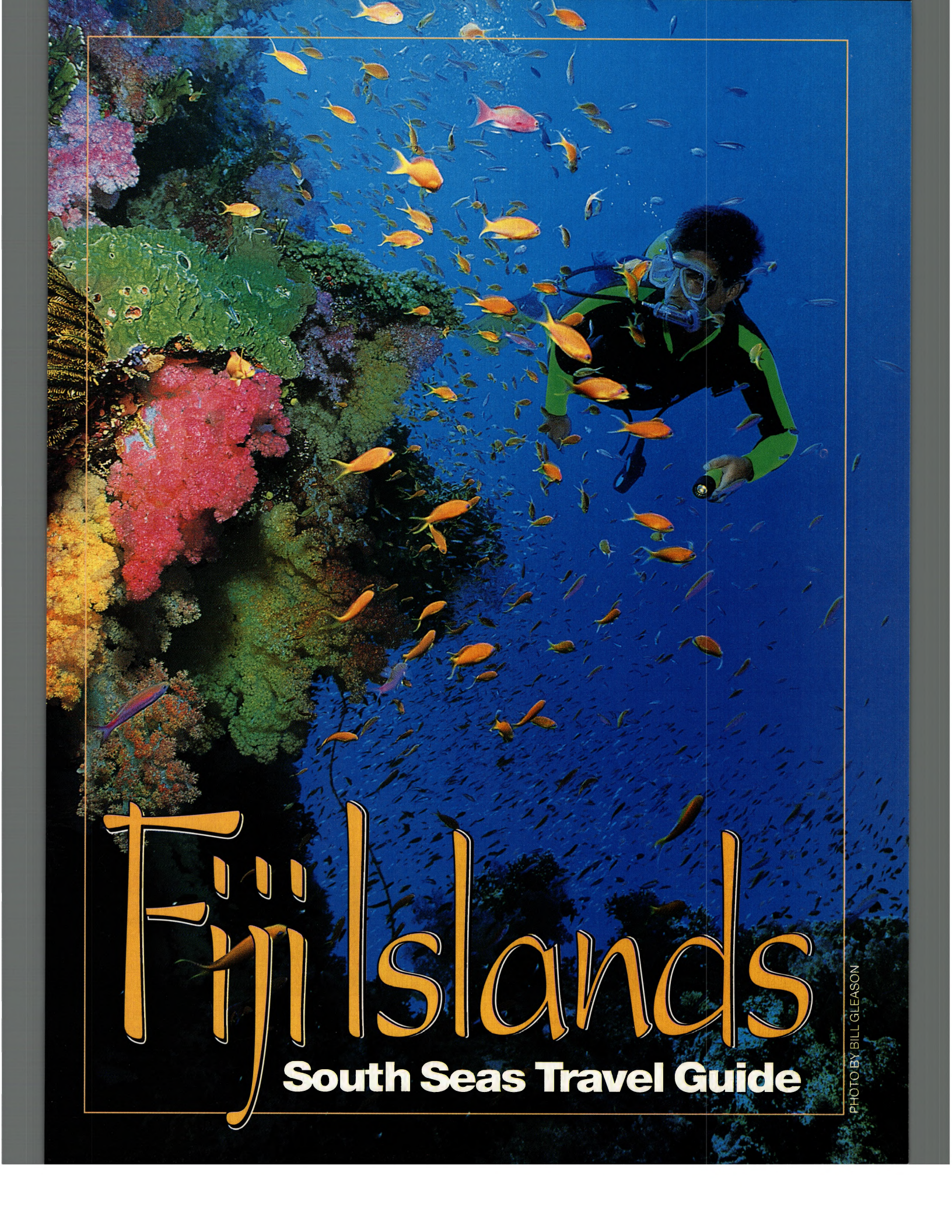
Upon successful completion of a NAUI specialty course participants receive one of the handsome new NAUI specialty course certification cards.

For more information on NAUI training courses, contact NAUI Headquarters at 4650 Arrow Highway, Suite F1, Montclair, CA 91763 or call (909) 621-5801; fax (909) 621-6405. 🐠

BOWDY TO TRUK AGGRESSOR II

Bill Bowdy is the new photo pro on the *Truk Aggressor II*.

Bowdy's photos and articles have appeared in U.S., Australian, New Zealand, Vanuatu, Fijian, New Caledonian, French and German publications. Pisces has just released his new *Dive and Snorkeling Guide to Vanuatu*. Bowdy is a PADI master instructor and SSI Platinum Pro 5000 award recipient and has been working on live-aboards in the Caribbean and South Pacific for 10 years. He is looking forward to being part of Team Cousteau on board the *Truk Aggressor II*. 🐠



Fiji Islands

South Seas Travel Guide

PHOTO BY BILL GLEASON

The Fiji Islands

Walls of Every Color, Reefs of Every Shape

TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHY BY BILL GLEASON

When asked "Where's the best diving in the world?" I often simply answer "Fiji." I qualify the answer by saying it's limited to reef diving—I have other opinions on wrecks, photo dives, big marine life and the like. But for straight reef diving, head for the outer islands of Fiji and be prepared for walls of every color and reefs of every shape. White Wall, Purple Wall, Red Wall, Yellow Wall—these are not just the names of dive sites but descriptions that apply to entire areas. And the reefs! They plunge vertically from 35 feet to deep blue in some areas, are fringing in others and atoll-like in still others. The coral shelf is home to countless bommies (coral heads); each one an adventure in discovering the unique species that make the South Pacific one of the most diverse ecosystems in the world.

Indeed, Fiji's tremendous underwater diversity is a blessing and sometimes a



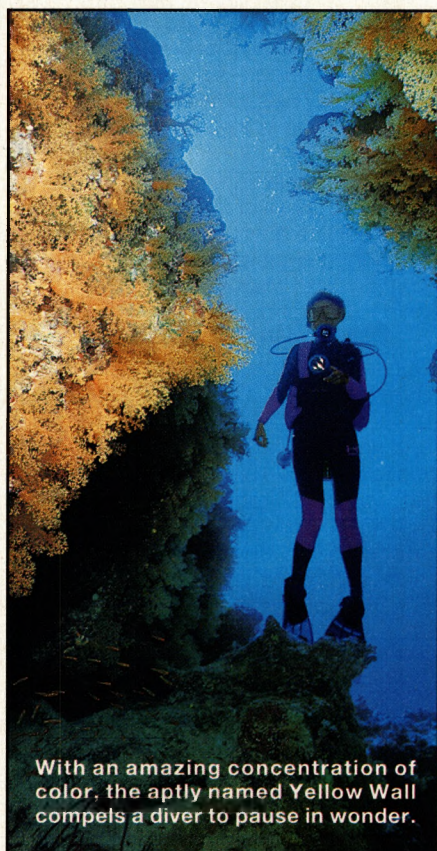
Sunset over Vanua Levu (top) inspires the secret awe and pristine majesty that has lured adventurers to Fiji for centuries. Above: A view of an unrivaled paradise meant to caress the soul; crystal clear waters, soft, sugar-white beaches and unspoiled tropical flora.

maze for a dive traveler to sort out. After all, Fiji is not a single island. Instead, it's made up of five or six major islands, with hundreds of surrounding islands and reefs. Indeed, even the Fijians will tell you they don't really know how many islands they have but, since there's more than enough land to go around, there's no particular rush to count them! While this may be fine for Fijians (and an insight into the cultural personality of some of the friendliest people you will ever meet), divers planning their first South Pacific vacations do not want to end up in the "wrong" part of Fiji—an

area not suited to their planned activities.

This year's special section will address each of the areas, both pro and con, in order to give you a leg up on planning either your first or next trip to Fiji.

Let's begin with your flight. From Los Angeles, on the U.S. West Coast, you can



With an amazing concentration of color, the aptly named Yellow Wall compels a diver to pause in wonder.



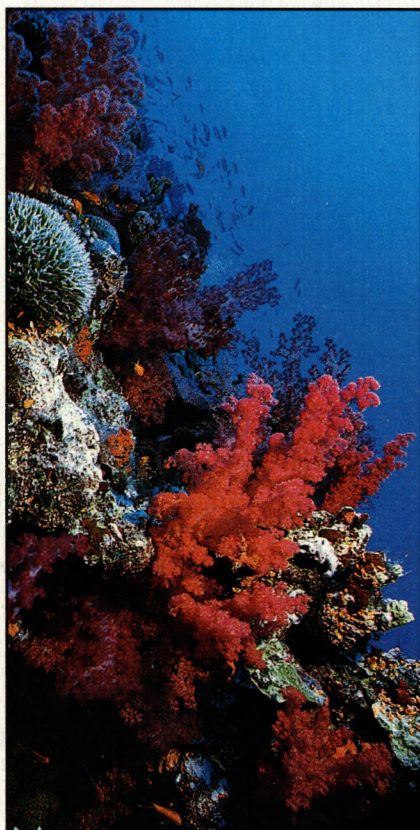
On the reef's of Kadavu in Fiji's southern islands, fiery Orange Corals set the water aflame with brilliant color.

fly nonstop to Nadi, Fiji, aboard an Air Pacific 747. The flight takes about 10½ hours. While this may sound like a lot of flying time, compared to most of the world-class South Pacific and Indo-Pacific destinations it's a commuter run! You'll usually arrive in early morning and will see a surprisingly large land mass (about 150 miles long) on your descent. Nearly all of it is green; the deep emerald green that defines the South Pacific. Broken only by the occasional river, sparkling beach or deep blue sea, this is nearly everyone's first glimpse of paradise.

You'll touch down at the only international airport in Fiji, Nadi (pronounced NAN-dee), and be greeted by customs officials who haven't yet learned to be unfriendly. Their universal greeting, as in all of Fiji, is "*Bula*," accompanied by a smile. Just answer with the same word, smile and you'll be well on your way to enjoying yourself. About the only other Fijian word you need to learn (English is spoken widely) is "*Vinaka*," which means "thank you."

In Nadi, the gateway to Fiji and one of its two "cities," you have a multitude of choices on where to proceed. Cars, boats and planes are all options. But, you should decide before arriving in Fiji just where you'll be going. Here's the list of options:

- The Nadi area
- The Mamanutha Islands
- The Coral Coast (Viti Levu)
- Vatulele Island
- Suva, Beqa Lagoon



Top: The Great White Wall is a legendary dive that may exceed even your highest expectations. Rainbow Reef (above) blushes with an abundance of flowering red corals.

- Kadavu Island,
- Savusavu, Vanua Levu
- Taveuni Island
- Matagi Island
- Lau cala Island
- Fiji's live-aboards

Careful travelers will research their itineraries well in order to get the best diving vacation, family vacation or mixture of both! None of the local connecting flights is much longer than an hour and many are shorter. The connections are usually made by Twin Otter (19 passenger aircraft) or other type of small plane. The airstrips are often grass and the "terminal" is usually a small cottage. The luggage allowance on the transfers can be tight, particularly if the planes are full of divers. Check with your agent or resort if you carry a lot of gear.

Let's take a look at the pros and cons of each area and the quality of the diving/traveling experience.

THE NADI AREA

This is home to luxury hotels, a golf course or two and is the newest area of leisure development in Fiji. The diving is only so-so and certainly not world-class. You'll see some barrier reef drop-offs but the soft coral is not found in profusion. Larger leisure hotels cater to a mix of Australian, New Zealand, Japanese and American/European visitors.

Pro: Classic resort hotels, reminiscent of Hawaii, etc. Well staffed and stocked. There are decent beaches, some nightlife



(in hotels), restaurants and all the amenities.

CON: The diving is only average South Pacific reef, not world-class.

THE MAMANUTHA ISLANDS

Just off the coast of Nadi is a cluster of very

small islands (only one or two small resorts on each) that glisten in a clear blue sea. These are perfect for family vacations and usually a good bargain. They range from inexpensive to somewhat pricey. There are dive operations on only a few.

PRO: You'll be close to the international airport yet will get "your own island" type of feeling. The weather is the driest in Fiji's west; the sun is an almost constant companion.

This area is excellent for new divers and new South Pacific divers, as current is usually not a factor.

CON: Other than a shark dive and one or two of the ocean passes on the barrier reef, this is not world-class diving, either. Diving inside the barrier reef is standard "look at the coral heads" and some fringing reefs. It's OK for relaxing but there's no diving "cigar" here for veterans.

VATULELE ISLAND

Both the name of the island and the resort on it, this place is first class in every way, it's small, intimate and private. Every amenity is available. The diving is superior; not in the class of Fiji's north but head and shoulders above that of the Nadi area and the Coral Coast.

PRO: It's first class, all the way. It's an unbelievable honeymoon or getaway place yet keeps a very low profile.

CON: The resort is pricey although not as costly as you might think when you consider the meals, toys and playtime thrown in for no extra charge.

THE CORAL COAST

Along the coast, about 40 miles from Nadi, you will find resorts of all shapes and sizes. Ranging from budget to deluxe, they all cater to traditional leisure travelers and diving is usually an add-on. This area excels in learn to dive experiences and full certification courses.

PRO: These resorts offer classic beach vacations, with calm water inside a barrier reef. They are very scenic and all amenities are offered. Nightlife, again, is pretty restricted to the occasional restaurant or the hotels.

CON: Although the barrier reef has its days in terms of visibility, there's often a

swell that makes diving outside the reef a bit more challenging. The reefs themselves have good drop-offs but infrequent storms damage most of the delicate soft corals. The corals are interesting but not as a main diving attraction.

SUVA, BEQA LAGOON

Continuing along the southern coast of the main island will bring you to the capital city of Suva and the main harbor for the entire chain of the Fiji Islands. The center of commerce, banking, shipping and manufacturing, Suva is more about work than it is about play. It's OK for a day of sightseeing but the city itself is not a star tourist attraction. Before you get into the city, however, there are a few hotels and dive operations that carry guests out to **Beqa Lagoon**, the first world-class diving we encounter as we make our way along the coast of the main island. About 15 miles off the coast, this lagoon (and it's a big one) has dramatic wall diving on the outside and large coral heads draped in soft corals on the inside.

PRO: This is the only world-class diving reachable by boat from the main island. The hotels are fair and Suva is within easy reach. Restaurants and golf are available.

CON: The trip to and from Beqa can be long or rough depending on the wind. The Beqa/Suva area is also the wettest in Fiji, so it can be raining in Suva and dry in both the northern and western areas.

As you may have surmised, Fiji's main island, Viti Levu, is dedicated more to the pursuit of classic travel vacations (under swaying South Pacific palms) than to the often special demands of dive travelers. In recent years, divers have been choosing two or more destinations within Fiji for a single vacation. If you just want to relax and unwind, Viti Levu and its surrounding areas are not too tough to take! Mainstream divers, however, will have to

touch down on the grassy airstrips of Fiji's north and south in order to find true world-class diving. And, in a nutshell, they will usually be sacrificing some of the amenities found in the larger hotels on the main island.

All the resorts in Fiji's diving world are small and usually isolated. Expect good to great service but the range of amenities cannot compare with the Hyatt and Sheratons of the main island.

KADAVU ISLAND

Our first stop is nearly 40 miles south of Suva Harbour. It is called Kadavu (pronounced Kan-DAH-voo) and is on a large island with a local airstrip. Kadavu is home to only a few small resorts and villages. Four to 12 rooms is the range of the accommodations and everything beats to the diving drum. Boats and guides are included.

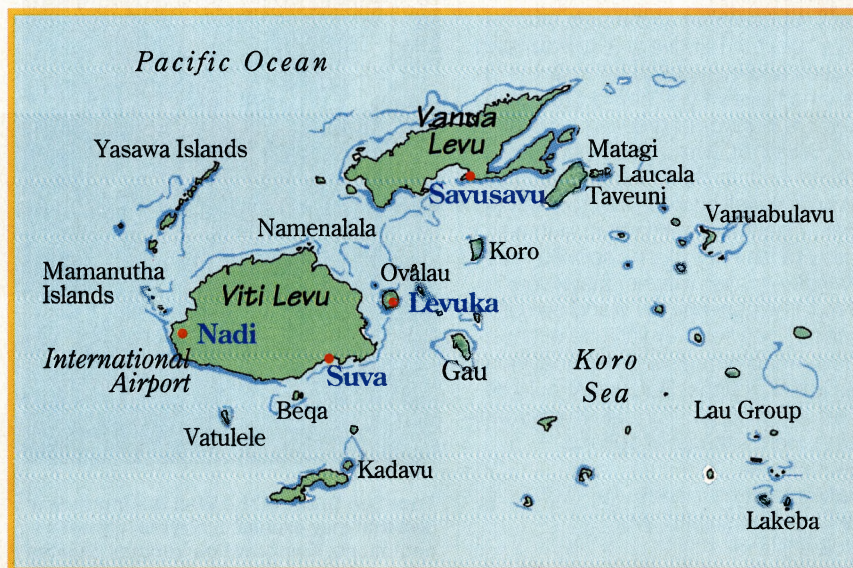
The reefs of Kadavu are among Fiji's best and some divers prefer them to the Somo Somo Straights (my hands down favorite). While you may run into some current in Kadavu, it is not as strong as in

FII WEATHER

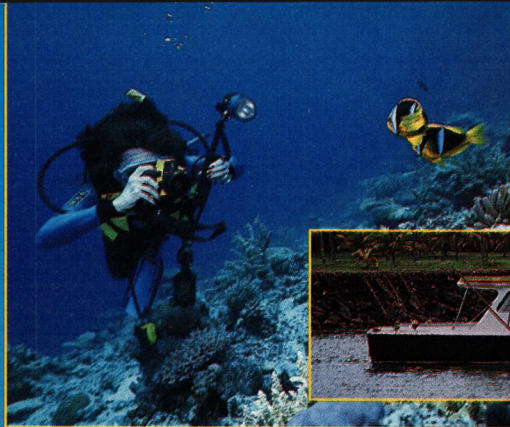
Approximately 17 degrees south latitude and nearly astride the International Dateline, Fiji's seasons are the reverse of those in the United States. Their winter is our summer.

While you can dive in the summer wearing just a Lycra diveskin, you'll be more comfortable the rest of the year with a wetsuit jacket or 2 to 3mm (minimum) jumpsuit. The water is usually about 80°F in the summer, dropping to 75 to 76°F in the winter. If you'll be diving frequently, bring a wetsuit.

The rainy season in Fiji is December through February but other than in the Suva area rain not a hindrance to a vacation. Both Fiji's north and west are in dry areas and receive only a small fraction of the rain the Suva area gets.

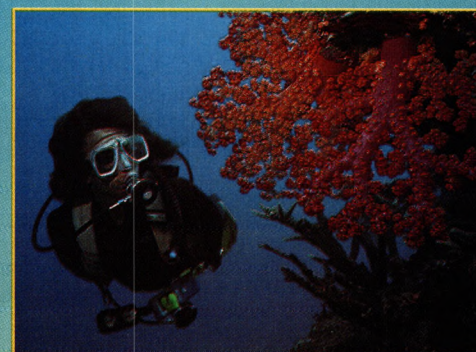
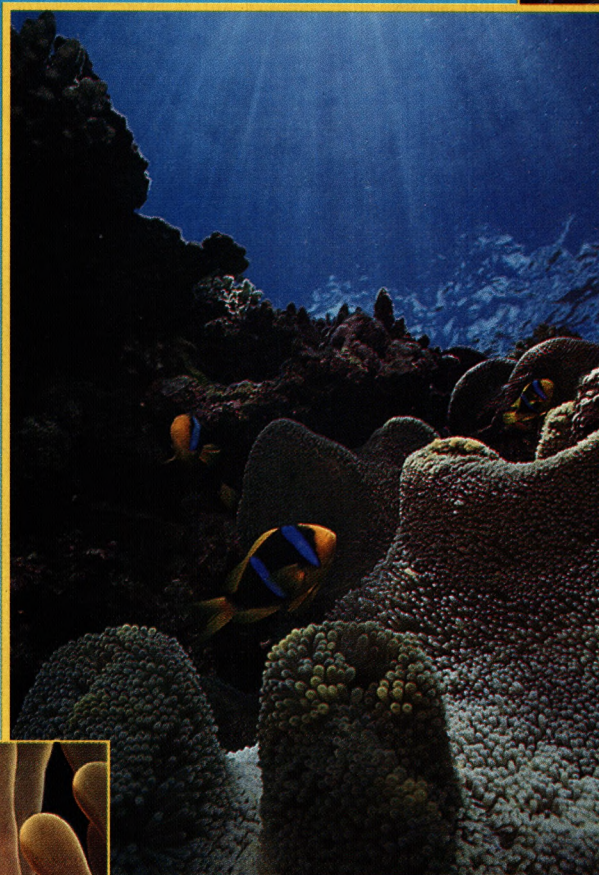


Experience Paradise without Boundaries...

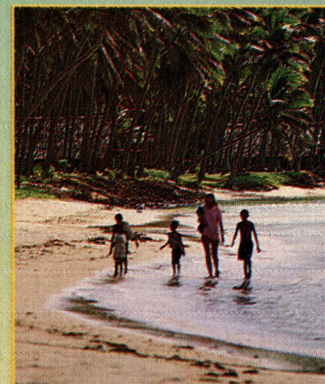


At Forbes Magazine's Laucala (La-tha-la) Island, you are treated to a world of space and choices beyond compare. All wrapped in the friendly and warm Fijian hospitality that itself knows no bounds.

Our full service dive operation will cater to your every need...there are no time tables or schedules. You decide when and we'll take you to over thirty world class dive sites nearby our spectacular island located in the Northern Group of the Fiji Islands. If you don't want to dive, you can fish, windsurf, snorkel, play tennis or do nothing at all. Anytime.



Your accommodations, a private bure, is located on the beach and features all the modern comforts and conveniences you will need. Our staff will prepare your meals, make up your bure and cater to your special requests.



In a Fiji Forbes Laucala world, you get to experience paradise without a limitation in sight!

FORBES
MAGAZINE'S
FIJI ISLAND

Fiji Forbes Laucala

1-800-FORBES-5

Outside U.S. Phone (719) 379-3263 or fax (719) 379-3266

Address: P.O. Box 149, Ft. Garland, CO 81133



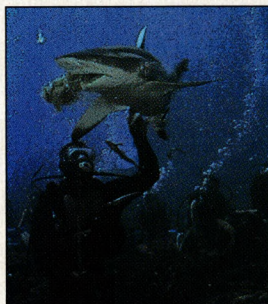
Fabulous

AQUA-TREK

In USA call toll-free: 1-800-541-4334
or 415-398-8990
Fax: 415-398-0479
Phone Fiji: 011-679-702413
Fax Fiji: 011-679-702412



Aqua-Trek, Fiji's first PADI 5★ Instructor Development Center, has a dive operation on Mana Island, a retail store and dive travel center and day dive boat operating out of Nadi. The Mana Island facility offers courses for beginners to instructors. Our island dive sites vary from drop-offs to coral gardens, our most famous the shark encounter at the "Supermarket."



★★★★★—5 Star Fiji Diving!

circle #283 on Reader Service Card

SERE

Phone Fiji: 011-679-361171
Fax Fiji: 011-679-361137
P.O. Box 3256 Lami, Fiji Islands



Dive the fabulous Fiji Islands on board the Sere which was custom built specially for live-aboard diving. This magnificent 30-metre vessel was launched in January 1995 and has regular departures for unlimited diving Fiji-wide. Sere (Song of the Sea) has five twin cabins, each with its own bathroom. The vessel is equipped to cater for up to ten divers on each voyage. Sere is owned and captained by Greg Lawlor, a fourth generation Fiji resident, who pioneered Fiji's live-aboard diving in the famous vessel, the Molly Dean. No cost has been spared in outfitting the Sere you and the nine other lucky divers will wallow in undreamed of luxury as guests as a dedicated diver who has set up his boat for your comfort and pleasure.

circle #292 on Reader Service Card

DIVE TAVEUNI RESORT

P.O. Matei Taveuni, Fiji Islands
Phone Fiji: 011-679-880441
Fax Fiji: 011-679-880466

The ultimate tropical island experience... romantic luxurious accommodations, candlelit gourmet island dining, smiling friendly people, intimate and relaxed. Dive world famous Rainbow Reef and Great White Wall aboard our spacious catamaran. Ric Cammick and his professional team care to both professional and novice divers. This exclusive affordable resort boasts of its own white beach, magnificent sunsets, and is just minutes from the lush rainforest, ablaze with bird life and cascading waterfalls. Enjoy the spectacular wonders of nature and below the sea.



circle #281 on Reader Service Card

NAI'A CRUISES FIJI

Fiji's Finest Diving

NAI'A, a lavish custom-built 120' x 30' motorsailor, has brought world-class comfort to Fiji's finest reefs. Designed and built for serious divers, NAI'A carries only 18 passengers in nine private, individually air-conditioned, en-suite staterooms. Fine dining, experienced 12-person crew, shark encounters, exquisite photo opportunities, exotic itinerary, photo and video pros on board Fiji's finest diving is with NAI'A CRUISES FIJI.



NAI'A CRUISES FIJI, P.O. Box 3179, Lami, Fiji Islands
Phone Fiji: 011-679-450382 • Fax Fiji: 011-679-450566
US: Sea & Sea Travel 1-800-DIV-XPRT

circle #288 on Reader Service Card

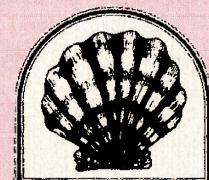
NAMALE RESORT

Box 244, Savusavu, Fiji Islands
Phone Fiji: 011-679-850435 • Fax Fiji: 011-679-850400
In North America: 1-800-727-FIJI

The reefs surrounding Namale Resort offers world class diving - from gardens of coral to breathtaking vertical walls. with service to match. A wide range of activities for the non diver, water sport, tennis, swimming pool, horseback riding, cultural activities and much more. Only 8 couples will experience the impeccable accommodations, gourmet meals under the stars and the ultimate in pampering. Magical with romance and surprises.



circle #282 on Reader Service Card



Fiji for the price of the Caribbean
One week inclusive
packages from \$1735!

1-800-443-0799

AIR PACIFIC

QANTAS
THE AUSTRALIAN AIRLINE

ADVENTURE EXPRESS

circle #297 on Reader Service Card

ONE CALL IS ALL IT TAKES!

To access our "Diver Friendly"

FIJI WIDE DIVE RESERVATIONS NETWORK

Linking your entire Dive Vacation USA/FIJI

SEA FIJI TRAVEL 1-800-854-3454

P.O. Box 264, Savusavu, Fiji Islands Ph: 011-679-850345

Fax: 011-679-850344

AIR PACIFIC

QANTAS
THE AUSTRALIAN AIRLINE

circle #298 on Reader Service Card

Fiji Islands

MALAWAI, KADAVU

Phone Fiji: 011-679-520102 • Fax Fiji: 011-679-361536

In U.S.A. 1-800-346-6116

P.O. Box 1277, Suva, Fiji Islands.

Malawai, Kadavu's premier resort is nestled between tropical forest and a dazzling beach. Luxurious colonial style cottages. Private reefs offer world class diving minutes from shore. Kadavu's only wreck dive. Dedicated dive boats with professional dive team.

Topside activities include beachcombing, bush walks, fishing or just relaxing. Intimate, secluded, limited to 10 guests. Malawai is the perfect getaway for the dis-concerning traveler.

Complimentary video on request.



circle #291 on Reader Service Card

TAVEUNI, FIJI ISLANDS

- Discover the magic of Taveuni's world famous Rainbow Reef and Great White Wall! Fiji's soft coral paradise!
- Fast, modern aluminum boats. 10 minutes to most sites. Friendly, professional staff!

- Experience the ambiance of a first class hotel. Fine food, comfortable accommodation, great atmosphere!

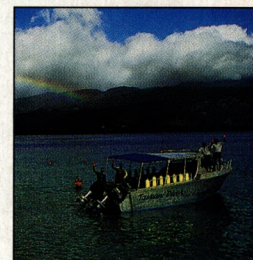
Fantastic value! 7 nights / 10 dives / all meals \$799.00 per person, twin share!

GARDEN ISLAND RESORT

P.O. Box 1, Waiyevo, Taveuni, Fiji Islands

Phone Fiji: 011-679-880-286/254

Fax Fiji: 011-679-880288



circle #284 on Reader Service Card



DIVE THE OUTER REEFS IN COMFORT WITH JEAN MICHEL'S TEAM

- FULL SERVICE DIVE SHOP
- FULL RANGE OF PADI COURSES
- DAILY 1 & 2 TANK DIVES

AT
COUSTEAU FIJI ISLAND RESORT

c/o Post Office Savusavu, Fiji Islands

Phone Fiji: 011-679-850188

Fax Fiji: 011-679-850340

circle #286 on Reader Service Card



ECO DIVERS

the Affordable Alternative!

Professional Dive Team, Fantastic Variety of Diving, Moored Dive Sites; Fast-Fun RIB Zodiacs, fitted tank racks/ladders. Accommodation/Dive Packages. Individuals/Groups.

Phone Fiji: 011-679-850122;

Fax Fiji: 011-679-850344;

P.O. Box 264, SAVUSAVU, FIJI ISLANDS

circle #285 on Reader Service Card

SUBSURFACE FIJI, LTD.

BEACHCOMBER ISLAND

NITROX SAFE AIR

USA Toll Free: 1-800-521-7242 • Fax: 213-256-0647

Phone Fiji: 011-679-666538 or Fax Fiji: 011-679-669955

Fiji's only ANDI Nitrox facility.

Diving throughout the entire Mamanuca group of islands and based on the famous Beachcomber Island Resort. Ship wreck, marine sanctuary, soft corals, drift dives, shark encounters and much much more.

Three PADI instructors, three dive masters and an ANDI nitrox instructor make-up the professional team that will show novice and the most experience divers safe, world class diving.



circle #271 on Reader Service Card

VATULELE ISLAND RESORT

"Top Ten Perfect Resorts"—Conde Nast Traveler

The creation of an Emmy award winning movie producer, this unique resort accommodates just 15 couples. Vatulele is the only Pacific island admitted to the Relais & Chateaux, an exclusive hotel chain noted for personal service and cuisine. This romantic hideaway is Fiji's only 5 star island resort with PADI dive facilities including instruction, and is ideal for those who appreciate pampered service as well as world class diving.

In USA: 1-800-828-9146 or 310-670-8430

Fax: 310-338-0708



circle #289 on Reader Service Card

FABULOUS FIJI

with low cost air



Water Ways
T r a v e l
Diving Fishing Surfing

1-800-928-3757

18145 Califa St., Suite 1 • Van Nuys CA 91411



circle #299 on Reader Service Card

AIR PACIFIC "One Call Does It All" **QANTAS**

TROPICAL ADVENTURES
TRAVEL

North America's Most Experienced Agents—17 Years!

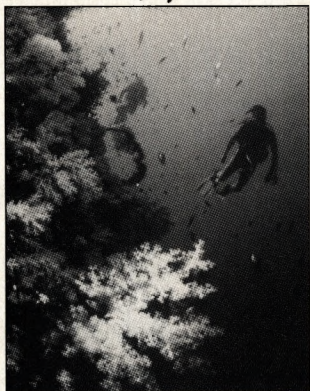
800-247-3483

WA (206) 441-3483 • FAX (206) 441-5431

circle #296 on Reader Service Card

GARDEN ISLAND RESORT

Taveuni/Fiji Islands



World Class Diving!
Dive Rainbow Reef
Vuna Lagoon & the famous
"Great White Wall"



Fast, Modern Boats!
10 minutes to dive sites



Perfect Beachfront
Location!
Minutes to waterfalls,
villages, rainforests.

Unbeatable Value!
Diving/M meal/
Accommodation
Package 7 nights • 10 dives
\$799 twin share
per person

Ph: 011 679 880 286
or 011 679 880 544
Fax: 011 679 880 288

Garden Island Resort
P.O. Box 1, Waiveyo
Taveuni, Fiji Islands

© SD/AD 1995

circle #90 on Reader Service Card

Fiji

the north and this may explain the preference. This is an adventure, with good accommodations and food thrown in. It is home to **Yellow Wall**, one of the more fascinating coral formations and

about 30 others. There are plenty of soft corals. Listen to the guides for tide and current advice.

PRO: There is excellent diving and amiable resorts in this out of the ordinary place. Topside it is very lush and beautiful. Hiking and village visits are the non-diving attractions. On Kadavu, Fijian life

HYPERBARIC CHAMBER

The Fiji Dive Operators Association has established a full service chamber in Suva. It is available on a 24 hour standby basis to treat both local and visiting divers.



Administration
011 (679) 850 630
011 (679) 850 344

Chamber
011 (679) 305 154

Emergencies
362 172

goes on as it has for hundreds of years.

CON: If you don't like nature and are looking for nightlife (other than a honeymoon) stay away.

From this point, we shift our focus to the northwest, long the stronghold of

smaller resorts on islands that have largely seen time pass them by. There are no crowds and no tourism to speak of other than divers who come in search of Fiji's fabled reefs.

SAVUSAVU ISLAND

This is the major town on Fiji's second largest island, Vanua Levu. Other than a quaint little harbor, there's not even much of a town, only a couple of small shops. Blink and you've been to Savusavu! As in all of the north, the economy is one of agriculture and local fishing and the villages are small and friendly. Quiet and relaxed is the order of the day and the resorts are self-sufficient in every way. There are no restaurants in Fiji's north and no nightlife except the camaraderie of fellow travelers or a local *meke* (MEK-ay). If you get the chance to participate or visit a *meke*, do so, since you'll see Fijians at their best; singing, dancing and genuinely concerned that their guests have a good time.

Diving off Savusavu is divided into three areas; **Savusavu Bay**, walls and the island of Namenalala. The bay is just average; large coral heads in 30 to 60 feet of water and nothing special. The walls, part of Vanua Levu's barrier reef, are steep! Soft corals are there but not in the numbers you see in Beqa, Kadavu or the rest of Fiji's north. Namenalala, just 20 miles away, does have A-plus world-class diving but can only be reached comfortably about 60 percent of the time. The resorts have all been upgraded, offering both diving and topside diversions (village visits, nature walks, waterfalls and local tours).

PRO: This area is quiet, pristine and undeveloped. The resorts are very comfortable and most amenities are provided. It's laidback and peaceful. The diving is very good to excellent, depending on the weather and choice of resort.

CON: This area doesn't deliver the consistent world-class diving other areas in the north do but makes up for it with the quality of the resorts.

ULTIMATE DIVE TRAVEL

"The Best In Personal Service"
Specializing In The Caribbean & Fiji

—TAVEUNI, FIJI TRIPS NOW ON SALE—
CAYMAN • BELIZE • BAHAMAS
BONAIRE • COZUMEL • BAY ISLANDS
TURKS & CAICOS

800-737-DIVE(3483)

circle #72 on Reader Service Card



© SD/AD 1995

circle #134 on Reader Service Card

Vuna Reef Divers - Taveuni

PADI/NAUI Dive Center. All levels of instruction in English and German. Packages and group rates available. Dive sites • Rainbow Reef, Vuna Reef, World famous "Great White Wall." For more info, Tel & fax 679-880125 P.O. Box 69 Taveuni Fiji Islands. Located at Susies Plantation Resort.

© SD/AD 1995

circle #158 on Reader Service Card

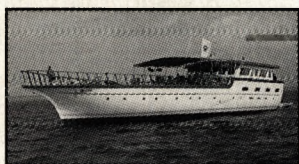
*Celebrating
our
22nd year*

Sink your teeth into a thrilling vacation!

Photo: Amos Nachoum

MALDIVES

MANTHIRI



- Pristine and Exotic
- 83 ft., 6 dbl. cabins w/ensuite baths
- Fully air-conditioned
- 9 nights - \$2250, with airfare \$3575
- An Indian Ocean Extravaganza

MICRONESIA

PALAU PACIFIC RESORT



- Palau to perfection
- A true world-class experience
- Palau's only beachfront resort
- Weekly packages from \$1150

FIJI ISLANDS

MALAWAI RESORT



- Fiji's great escape...unspoiled, unpopulated and unforgettable
- Personalized service (6 guests max.)
- Great Kadavu Island diving
- Only \$1284 weekly all-inclusive

FIJI ISLANDS

DIVE KADAVU MATANA



- A small dedicated dive resort
- Fantastic beach & close-by dive sites
- On incredible Kadavu Island
- Weekly all-inclusive from \$911

COZUMEL

DIAMOND RESORT



- Cozumel's very best beach
- Closest hotel to all major dive sites
- From \$995 weekly includes accommodations, unlimited food & bar, daily 2-tank boat diving with DSI, unlimited activities, taxes

VENEZUELA

ANTARES III



- Los Roques - fish filled & action packed
- A world-class Caribbean destination
- 85 feet of comfort & personalized service
- 6 A/C staterooms w/ensuite baths
- ONLY \$1375 weekly

© SD/AD 1995



Pure Luxury—Why Pay More?



**TROPICAL
ADVENTURES**
TRAVEL

"Worldwide Dive Tour Specialists Since 1973"

800-247-3483

WA (206) 441-3483 • FAX (206) 441-5431
111 Second North, Seattle, WA 98109

EAST AFRICA • RED SEA • SEYCHELLES • INDONESIA • BORNEO • AUSTRALIA • MICRONESIA • CAYMAN • BELIZE • COZUMEL
• TURKS & CAICOS • FIJI ISLANDS • SOLOMONS • PAPUA NEW GUINEA • THAILAND • SEA OF CORTEZ • SABA • GALAPAGOS
• COCOS ISLANDS • ROATAN • VENEZUELA • BONAIRE • COSTA RICA • GREAT WHITE SHARK • WHALE SHARK • MALDIVES

Circle #98 on Reader Service Card



TAVEUNI ISLAND

Taveuni (pronounced Ta-vay-OO-nee) defines the essence of world-class diving in Fiji with daily trips to the **Somo Somo Straights**, one of those quirks of nature that finds the

reef jutting out into the channel that separates Vanua Levu from Taveuni. Home of **Rainbow Reef** (comprising some 16 dive sites), this is one of the few places on earth where the reefs appear red, owing to soft corals. There are small, quiet resorts in idyllic settings and, except for the lack of nightlife, no complaint can be registered.

Taveuni is also home to the **Great White Wall**, one of diving's top ten reef dives. Jump in the water, head down a chute in the reef, exit and turn left at 90 feet, then just look. From top to bottom, to the edge of visibility in all directions, the reef is white! Flowering soft corals make the day. Topside attractions are village visits, waterfall walks and the occasional small store.

Pro: This is superb, world-class diving. The resorts are small, self-contained and provide good to excellent services commensurate with daily rates. The island is spectacularly beautiful even when compared to the rest of Fiji.

Con: Current diving in the Somo Somo Straights is not for novices; experienced divers will have a better time exploring Rainbow Reef. The peculiar geography that makes the straights such world-class diving also means you face the current (ranging from gentle to "in your face") for at least 25 percent of the dive.

MATAGI ISLAND

Reached via the Taveuni airstrip and a quick van/boat transfer, this small resort is not only self-contained but the center of attention on its own very private island.

Although close to Taveuni, it has its own complete set of dive sites, including the famed **Purple** and **Red Walls**. Don't forget **Mariah's Cove**, a shallow second dive site, where many of the cover quality photos you see published were shot.

Pro: The diving is excellent and it's hard to beat your own private island.

Con: Your own private island, even with resort amenities, is not for everyone!

LAUCALA ISLAND

Just across the water from Taveuni and Matagi is Laucala (pronounced Loo-THAH-la) Island, for years the private domain of publisher Malcolm Forbes. Still owned by the Forbes family, it represents a unique approach to a South Pacific vacation. Just take the scenery, beaches and world-class diving for granted. At Laucala, the ruling philosophy of the day is whatever you want to do—whether it's diving, deep sea fishing or hiking. There will always be a guide ready to help you. Suffice it to say its repeat visitor rate is more than 60 percent! Laucala is reached by its own private airstrip or by transfer from Taveuni.

Pro: Where else could you have your own private resort with private beachfront cottage and feel as if you were a member of the family?

Con: It's hard to believe until you have actually been there. As with the rest of the north, there is no formal nightlife.

FIJI LIVE-ABOARDS

If the number of live-aboards is any testament to the quality of diving, then Fiji excels here, with three. It is rare to hear a complaint about Fiji live-aboards; they all perform to industry-plus standards.

Nai'a: With 12 crew members serving 18 guests, you can't beat the service on this well established vessel. Based out of Lautoka in western Fiji, the *Hana Nai'a* cruises the north coast of Fiji and usually visits Gau, Wakaya and Namenalala. Check out a dive called **E-6**, a pinnacle rising from 3,000 feet of water that's giving the Great White Wall a run at being

FIJI AIR TRAVEL

Fiji can be conveniently reached via two international airlines:

Air Pacific
(800) 227-4446

Qantas
(800) 227-4500

To access Fiji's outer islands, contact either of the following airlines:

Air Fiji
(800) 677-4277
(310) 670-7302

Sunflower Airlines
(808) 531-4496
011 (679) 723 016

Fiji's best dive!

Sere-ni-wai: Veteran live-aboard captain Greg Lawlor (of *Mollie Dean* fame) returns with a brand new vessel, the *Song of the Sea*. Although more than 100 feet long she caters to only ten passengers. Lawlor's reputation as a first class captain and host is well tested. Specializing in custom charters, Greg and his staff select the itinerary to fit each group's needs.

Matagi Princess II: While the waters of Taveuni, Matagi and adjacent areas have always drawn raves from dive travelers, even the best of the day boat operations are limited to just a couple of dives. On-site in Fiji's north, *Matagi Princess II* (capacity 12 guests) solves that problem and provides maximum access to the reefs. Spacious and roomy, the *Princess* gets the job done in style.

Pro: Live-aboards provide access to Fiji's world-class diving that only about five resorts can compete with! There's not a bad one in the bunch and it's really just a question of personal choice.

Con: Getting to the boats is about the hardest thing you'll do and that's not particularly arduous. And, although village visits are usually part of the itinerary, you will not see as much of topside Fiji and its culture as you would on a land based vacation. 🐟

ADMIT ONE

DISCOVER Fiji Pass

Any 4 Flights
in Fiji for \$199

(800) 677-4277
(310) 670-7302

ADMIT ONE

AIR FIJI
There's a New Spirit in the Air
© SD/AD 1995

circle #99 on Reader Service Card

GREAT DESTINATIONS

FIJI SPECIALISTS
BOOK IN JANUARY FOR
PROMOTIONAL PRICES IN 1996
800-741-2178
E-mail: scuba@skindiver.com
<http://www.skindiver.com>

circle #19 on Reader Service Card

Sunflower Airlines

We'll take you to
the best diving
in Fiji!

1-800-224-0220

circle #135 on Reader Service Card

Non-stop to Paradise.



Fly Qantas Airways and Air Pacific non-stop to Fiji...

The best way to discover *the* world class dive experience.

If it's world class diving you're after, then climb aboard. The Pacific's leading airlines, Air Pacific and Qantas, want to take you non-stop to Fiji, one of the finest dive areas and most friendly destinations in all the world.

In fact, with Qantas and Air Pacific you get the convenience of the only non-stop service to Fiji from the mainland United States (Los Angeles)! With non-stop service, your dive experience in paradise begins as soon as possible.

WHAT'S IT LIKE IN PARADISE?

With its warm, clear waters and unspoiled underwater landscapes, diving in Fiji is an experience you'll not soon forget. Some of the great dive wonders of the world are in Fiji from the Great White Wall, a 200-foot white coral spectacular, to the explosion of colorful soft coral you'll discover in such famous spots as

Rainbow Reef, The Yellow Wall and Malolo Barrier Reef. Add the abundance of healthy, colorful and diverse marine life and you truly have a dive experience unrivalled anywhere on earth.



TWO OF THE WORLD'S BEST

Air Pacific, Fiji's International Airline, has served the South Pacific for nearly 50 years. And, as the oldest airline in the English-speaking world (celebrating its 75th year), Qantas offers the global experience you demand from your airline.

So, when planning your next dive vacation, fly Air Pacific and Qantas to the fascinating and friendly Fiji Islands, a true diver's paradise.



(800)227-4446

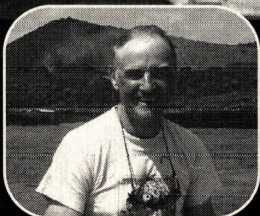
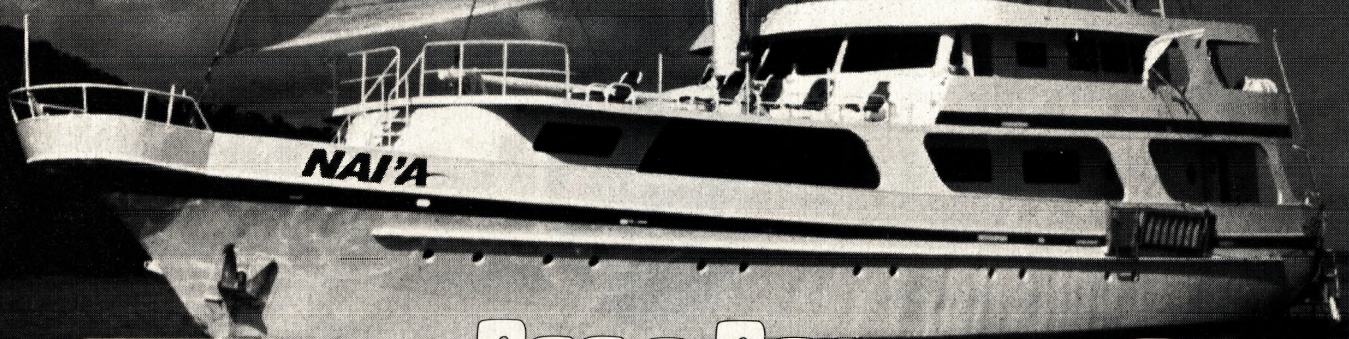
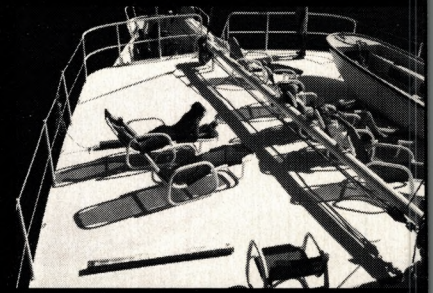


(800)227-4500



FIJI'S GREATEST DIVING ABOARD THE MAGNIFICENT NAI'A

- ◆ A variety of reefs & passes!
- ◆ Spacious salon & sun deck!
- ◆ Cruise among the islands!
- ◆ Years of Fiji experience!
- ◆ Visits to native villages!
- ◆ Truly unlimited diving!
- ◆ Queen-sized beds!
- ◆ Big animal dives!
- ◆ Private suites!
- ◆ Private baths!
- ◆ Great food!



Carl Roessler
Author & Photographer

"The man who invented live-aboard diving!"

See & Sea

TRAVEL SERVICE, INC.

50 FRANCISCO STREET, SUITE 205
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94133
TELEPHONE 415.434.3400

E-mail: divxpirt@ix.netcom.com
<http://www.divxpirt.com/see&sea>
FAX 415.434.3409

CALL THE DIVE EXPERTS 1-800-DIV-XPRT



ARE THESE THE GREATEST ADVENTURES IN DIVING?

Alita Papua New Guinea



Undersea Hunter Cocos Island



Ghazala Explorer Red Sea/Sudan

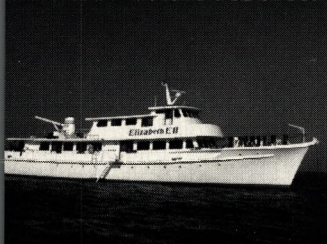


Mistral Galapagos



**MANY OF OUR CLIENTS THINK SO BUT
OTHERS INSIST THAT THESE ARE!**

Elizabeth E II Australia's Coral Sea



Koi Mala



Maldives

Golden Dawn New Guinea's Coral Sea



Tiata Northern New Guinea



**AND WHAT ABOUT SEE & SEA'S ^{SD} VALUEDIVES ^{SD},
THE QUICK WEEK IN PARADISE AT A REASONABLE PRICE?**

Solmar Sea of Cortez



Nai'a



Fiji

Ocean Hunter



Palau

Thorfinn



Truk Lagoon

^{SD} VALUEDIVE ^{SD} for \$1645 per week!

^{SD} VALUEDIVE ^{SD} for \$2080 per week!

^{SD} VALUEDIVE ^{SD} for \$1995 per week!

^{SD} VALUEDIVE ^{SD} for \$1895 per week!

See & Sea Travel Service, Inc. the first
Company in Dive Travel to display on
the Internet!

Point and click in your home or office to
See & Sea Travel's Divers' world-wide
information system with photos in full
color. The serious diver's ultimate
online resource! Home page is at:

<http://www.divxpri.com/see&sea>

E-mail: divxpri@ix.netcom.com



CALL THE DIVE EXPERTS 1-800-DIV-XPRT

Blackbeard's Cruises

Sail Away to Bahamas Adventures

TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHY
BY RICK FREHSEE

They are sleek, white and well-equipped. They are comfortable and safety-wise for sailors and adventurers. They are straightforward, uncrowded and certainly more practical than luxurious. Accommodations are Pullman-type beds, privacy is a pull curtain; the living area is a charming, air-conditioned, wood-warmed salon. Nightlife is a sky of diamonds sprinkled on black velvet. It's an adventure cruise designed primarily for divers, staged in one of the most spectacular underwater environments in the world. It also may be the greatest escape, the greatest adventure and the greatest diving you have ever experienced.

Blackbeard's Cruises is a well-established dive/cruise charter operating in The Bahamas out of Miami, Florida. There are three sailing sloops, all 65 feet long and nearly identical, that leave their Miami slips each week and head for some of the most spectacular sites in the entire Western Hemisphere. Scuba divers will tell you that boats are merely

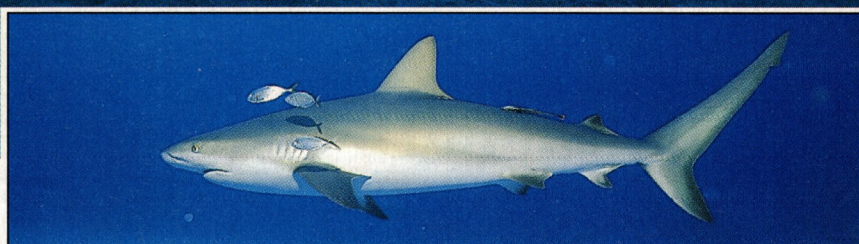
transportation; the real adventure is below the sea. Live-aboards, however, must also provide food, comfort and support. Their main claim to fame is the ability to reach exotic locations and provide greater on-site diving time. Blackbeard's vessels provide comfort, support, location and more. In the transportation process they provide a sailing experience, a camaraderie between guests and crew and a way of life that is pure escapist adventure. In addition to life aboard a sailing sloop and incredible adventures below the sea, there are sweeping sandy beaches to explore and the ports of call are some of the island-funkiest and fun places imaginable.

During my recent trip with Blackbeard's Cruises, I encountered a family of four from Michigan, a dive shop owner and his wife from Ohio, a couple of diehard Texas divers on their third annual trip and several couples from the Midwest, including an older couple on their first dive cruise. I also met, and got

Top: Blackbeard's 65 foot sailing sloops provide practical comfort to divers looking for adventure and escape in The Bahamas. Above: Caribbean Reef Sharks (*Carcharhinus perezii*) can be observed at a number of shark stations visited by the sailboats.

to know, our captain, who taught me a few things about navigation and sailing; our young but experienced and friendly divemaster, who challenged me to (and won) a free diving contest; and a cook, who, besides creating wonderful food, was also a periodic model for my photos. This trip may not be for everybody but it does provide a universal experience and a variety of diving.

Divers begin to arrive at Watson Island, near downtown Miami, on Saturday between noon to 1:00 pm. Passengers meet the crew and each other at a barbecue prepared on the dock. Then, they are assigned a berth on one of three sailing vessels: *Pirate's Lady*, *Morning Star* and *Sea Explorer*. Each of the boats carries a crew of six, including two licensed captains, a



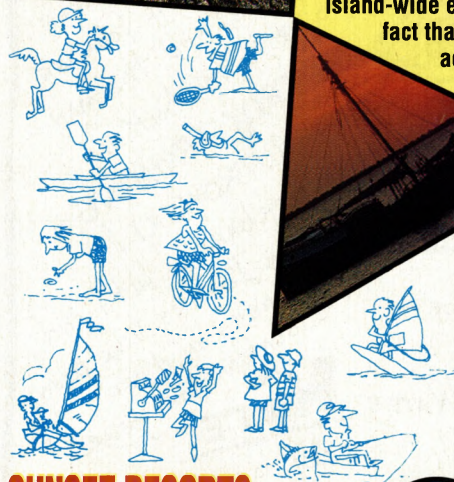
dive instructor, cook and deckhands. There are usually about 20 passengers. By 3:00 pm the ships are away from the dock and heading across the Gulf Stream toward the beautiful Bahamas, about 50 miles away. The crew sails all night to make the crossing to Bimini to clear customs the next morning.

Then the adventure begins. With no set itinerary, the captain of each vessel, along with requests and suggestions from passengers, is free to select the direction. Among the choices are the waters north and mostly south of the Biminis, Grand Bahama Island and the Berry Islands between Nassau (New Providence Island) and the Biminis. Although the three boats leave at the same time, they do not necessarily follow the same direction or dive the same sites. By mid-week, usually on Wednesday night, the vessels tie up at a Bimini, Nassau or Grand Bahama marina or yacht club for an island visit and nightlife. Guests return to the boat to spend the night.

The diving is spectacular and diversified. Highlights include deep and medium descents along incredibly colorful walls and shallow dives over intricate coral gardens, crowded with fish. The newest kick for divers is a visit to one of several shark stations along each of the three routes. These include a popular reef site near Bimini, another off Nassau and a third shark site close to Freeport, Grand Bahama. A fourth site, in the Exuma Islands, has recently been developed by the Blackbeard's crew. The primary species is the Caribbean Reef Shark, a sleek species that can grow to more than eight feet long. The sharks will come right in and swim very close to the divers. The normal diver reaction is fear, which turns to astonishment, then to wonder and finally to respect. Many shark dives aboard Blackbeard's ves-



sels have created a new appreciation of a long-misunderstood species. Incidentally, whether shark dive or day or night reef excursion, the dive crews offer thorough and comprehensive briefings before each dive. Staff, equipment and dive techniques are all state of the art.



SUNSET RESORTS



Hotel • Villas • Apts • Inn



UNITED AIRLINES



Sunset Beach Hotel

1996 BON-ANZA

\$999⁰⁰ per pers. dbl. occ.

Seven nights, valid 1/6-4/14/96. Travel Mon. thru Thurs. (add \$50 for Fri., Sat., Sun. travel).

Price Includes:

- Roundtrip airfare from Miami to Bonaire
- U.S. Departure Tax • U.S. Federal Taxes • Hotel transfers • Welcome cocktail • Map of Bonaire • Breakfast buffet daily • Bonaire poster • One day car rental per room • Six days of diving • One 1-tank guided boat dive per day • One night boat dive per stay • Unlimited airfills for offshore diving • Use of tanks, weights and weightbelt • All service charges and taxes

AND NOW... DIVE+PLUS

Bonaire has long been known and acclaimed for its spectacular diving, and as a delightful place to unwind and just relax. There are, however, many "Soft-Adventure" activities that have always been available but rarely publicized!

Introducing... "DIVE-PLUS"... an entirely new island-wide effort to make vacationers aware to the fact that there is so much more enjoyment and activities for both the diver and the non-diver to participate in! Come, try us and see all that you've been missing!

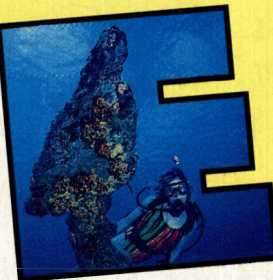
YOURS TO ENJOY!

- Windsurfing
- Bicycle Touring
- Scuba Diving
- Casinos • Tennis
- Sailing • Fishing
- Snorkeling
- Horseback Riding
- Bird Watching
- Sea Kayak
- Beachcombing & More!



For Non-Diving Companion Deduct \$200 • Upgrade to 12 Boat Dive Package Add \$80. Air Add-on from Atlanta from \$175 per pers. Special fares available from most home cities using United Airlines, U.S. Air and Continental Airlines... call for pricing. Not included: \$10 Bonaire Departure Tax, \$10 Marine Park Fee and Car Insurance.

Prices subject to change and availability.



Scuba Diving Travel Specialists

USA & CAN: 800/328-2288

P.O. Box 3299/Longwood, FL 32779
407-774-9000/FAX 407-682-6000

BLACKBEARD'S CRUISES

Diving and sailing adventures heighten the appetite. Coffee, perked by 6:00 am, three excellent meals each day, snacks in between, sodas, beer and rum drinks are all included in the package price. There is no skimping on food or drinks.

This January and February one of the Blackbeard's vessels will be stationed in Nassau and dedicated to a series of special one week trips to the Exumas and Eleuthera. Passengers will fly into

Nassau and spend the week diving wilderness walls and a brand new shark site.

Regardless of your itinerary, the diving, the sun, the sea, the friendships, the port side parties and the nights under the stars will all contribute to an exceptional adventure. For information, write to Blackbeard's Cruises, P.O. Box 66-1091, Miami Springs, FL 33266 or call (800) 327-9600; (305) 888-1226, fax (305) 884-4214.

BOB SOTO'S CORRECTION

The fax number for Bob Soto's

Reservation Center, listed in the Winter Wonderland article in SKIN DIVER's November issue, was incorrect. The fax number for Bob Soto's in Atlanta, Georgia is (770) 497-8494.

TECHNIFACTS

(Continued from Page 33)

rounds planet earth. In an average atmospheric environment air is a physical mixture of several gases, a chemical mix of others. It is also a mix of a host of microsolids called particulates. Contrary to information published in most dive manuals, the composition of air is not a constant mix of 78 percent nitrogen (N_2) and 21 percent oxygen (O_2). A more accurate analysis of air would show it as two principal mixes: the nonvariable components and the variable components.

The principal, nonvariable components, in atmospheric air are: nitrogen (N_2) 78.11 percent; oxygen (O_2) 1 percent and argon (Ar) 1 percent.

In addition, very small percentages or minute traces of neon (Ne), helium (He), hydrogen (H_2), methane (CH_4) and minute traces of three other rare gases are nonvariable components of gaseous air.

Variable components of atmospheric air include: water (H_2O) as vapor, 0 to 7 percent; carbon dioxide (CO_2) .01 to .1 percent; carbon monoxide (CO) trace percent.

At least five other gases, mixtures or elements, such as sulphur dioxide (SO_2), nitrogen dioxide (NO_2) and ammonia (NH_3) may exist in the atmosphere. Also suspended in atmospheric air are various kinds of liquid droplets and a wide variety of small solid particles. These are particulates. There are additional elements in most cities and abundantly so in industrial cities.

In the early years of diving, it was believed that only a few of these elements and gas mixes were relevant to dive safety. Normally, an air supply system provides compressed air to a dive tank composed of only nonvariable elements of atmospheric air. The filters in a well maintained, properly functioning compressed air system will have removed all particulates and all the variable elements. None of the nonvariable elements that are the essentials of life will have been changed.


Dive publications usually discuss gases in the context that only O_2 is utilized by the body and is important to dive safety. This is probably not a completely valid assumption. Argon, neon and hydrogen have all been used with oxygen (and other gases) in experimental breathing gas mixes. It has also been found that nitrogen is required in a breathing gas mix to permit very deep diving. I believe there are more questions than answers at this time.

IN THE MEANTIME

A reader in Japan wrote, "Are any

INSTRUCTOR TRAINING +

P.A.D.I. NITROX INSTRUCTOR TRAINING



You'll also
 RECEIVE AN INTRODUCTION
 to RECOMPRESSION CHAMBER
 OPERATION from the founder
 of IANTD and the man
 who wrote the book on
 NITROX TRAINING!

OCEAN DIVERS

KEY LARGO, FL

GREAT LOCATION!

FLORIDA

DICK RUTKOWSKI!

OCEAN DIVERS Int'l AND PARTNERS IN DIVER EDUCATION FOR YEARS.

NOTE: All levels of Nitrox training available - this is the future of diving!!

Pro: 1. MORE candidate practice presentation.

2. MORE POOL + OPEN WATER TRAINING SESSIONS.

3. RESCUE EVALUATIONS EVERYDAY -

4. THEY ATTEND MY I.E. TEST -

5. TROPICAL RESORT IN KEY LARGO.

6. SMALL CLASSES -

7. JOB PLACEMENT SERVICE

8. ONLY facility with a RECOMPRESSION CHAMBER.

CHECK-OUT OCEAN DIVERS ARTICLE IN SKIN DIVER NOVEMBER 1995.

CALL TODAY 1-800-451-1113 EXT. 12

522 CARIBBEAN DR. KEY LARGO, FL 33037

305-451-1113

FAX: 305-451-5765

©SD/AD '95

companies in the U.S. making hardhat gear?" Specifically, the reader was interested in MK-V helmets.

For many years the answer to the last question would have been no. Recently (mid-1995), Diving Equipment & Supply Co. Inc. (DESCO) announced it was manufacturing a limited edition of 20 U.S. Navy MK-V helmets. Last year marked the 80th anniversary (1915 to 1995) of the MK-V. These new helmets will be genuine, fully functional and will bear serial numbers from 1 to 20.

DESCO is also staffed and equipped to provide maintenance and extensive repairs to its helmets and any of its equipment. For complete information on maintenance and repair services and the current availability of the new MK-V rigs, write to DESCO at 240 North Milwaukee Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202.

For a chance at a "free" MK-V DESCO helmet write to Mr. Leslie Leaney, Historical Diving Society, 2023 Cliff Drive, No. 119, Santa Barbara, CA 93109. The Historical Diving Society (HDS) has purchased and is raffling off one of the 20 DESCO helmets. Leaney says, "The helmet will come with complete information and a commemorative plate." Raffle tickets are \$5 each or five for \$20.


A NEW WORDS FOR HAWAII

New words to be considered for inclusion in the Hawaiian language are submitted to the Aha Hui Olelo. This group is also in charge of periodically publishing new editions of the *Hawaiian Language Dictionary*. It has not been revised since 1985 and probably will not be brought up to date again for several years. New words for 1994 will appear in the *Papa Hua Olelo*, the publication of the Aha Hui Olelo.

According to *Seawords*, the newsletter of the Marine Options program of the University of Hawaii, interested readers can call Lei Viveiros at (800) 933-3339 at the Hale Kuamo'o for information on obtaining the complete list of new words by mail.

A few of the many marine related words now approved for the Hawaiian lexicon include: *pahuwaiea* (aquarium); *moku kua'au* (atoll); *kanaka kalaimeaoa* (biologist); *lu'u kini ea* (scuba); and, in case you need to ask for a yogurt, try *waiutepe*.

It is easy to be at a loss when pronouncing Hawaiian words. Remember, each vowel in an Hawaiian word must be pronounced. Try that as you drive through Kaaava looking for Keehi Lagoon. By the way, if you are in Kaaava looking for Keehi Lagoon, you really are lost!

The next Technifacts will discuss oxygen, the body's flameless furnace and how diving tries to put out the fire. See you then for more information on the gases that keep you living—underwater. Take care. 

KEY LARGO'S TOP 11 REASONS

TO DIVE WITH →

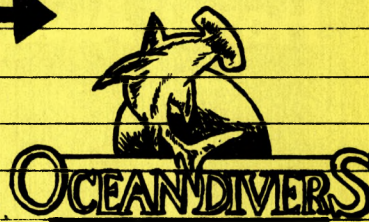
1. *EASY, FAST ACCESS FROM AIRPORT.*

2. *MOST COMPLETE DIVE RESORT IN THE FLORIDA KEYS!*

3. *STATE OF THE ART DIVE BOATS.*

4. *BEST VARIETY OF DIVE EXPERIENCES.*

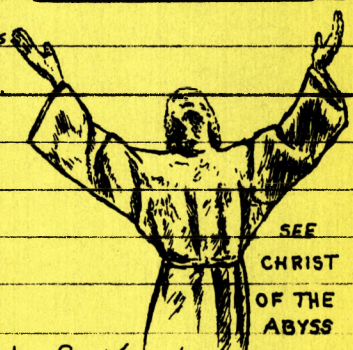
5. *GROUP DIVE PACKAGES AVAILABLE.*



AND STAY WITH



MARINA DEL MAR
Resort and Marina



6. *IN THE HEART OF KEY LARGO~*

7. *ADJACENT TO OCEAN DIVERS.*

8. *DELUXE ACCOMMODATIONS, STANDARD ROOMS TO SUITES.*

9. *OVERSIZE POOL, FITNESS CENTER, TENNIS COURTS.*

10. *COCONUTS RESTAURANT AND LOUNGE.*

11. **KEY LARGO'S CENTER FOR**

NITROX DIVING



DUANE

DIVE
THE



BIBB

U.S. COAST GUARD CUTTERS

CALL TODAY FOR DETAILS!

1-800-451-1113

OCEAN DIVERS

305-451-1113

FAX: 305-451-5765


522 CARIBBEAN DRIVE • KEY LARGO, FLORIDA 33037

© SD/AD '95

Roatan's Reef House Resort

Home Away from Home in the Bay Islands

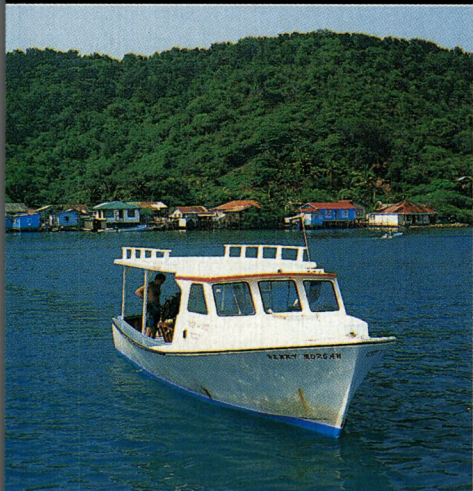
TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHY
BY RICK FREHSEE

A composite image featuring a couple in the foreground and divers underwater in the background. The couple, David and Karla Bogran, are standing on a light-colored surface. David is on the left, wearing a white polo shirt and sunglasses hanging from his collar. Karla is on the right, wearing a floral-patterned dress. The background is a deep blue underwater scene with several divers silhouetted against the light. One diver is in the center, facing away from the camera, while others are positioned around them. The overall effect is a sense of being close to the ocean and diving activities.

It sits at the edge of the sea, the veranda from a tin-roofed guestwing, mounted on stilts, hangs over the water's edge. The courtyard, with its row of beach chairs, and the deck of the thatched roof bar actually touch the sea. From the edge of the courtyard terrace you can enter the ocean, it is much like stepping off the edge of a huge swimming pool. If there were waves (there aren't, owing to the outer fringing reef) or tide (almost nonexistent in this part of the Caribbean), it would be impossible to live this close to the ocean. Off the courtyard steps there is a series of pools, some deep enough for scuba training. At the eastern end of the property is a cement and coral rock path that reaches out in the lagoon to position divers even closer to the nearby fringing reef. This is the route to some of the most accessible high quality shore diving in all the Caribbean.

This place is Roatan's Reef House, the perfect name for a pleasant little dive resort that is a house that sits on a reef flat at the edge of the sea. The Reef House Resort is Roatan's original and most island-authentic dedicated dive resort; it has been in nearly constant operation since the early 1970s. The heart of its authentic island architecture is a former Roatan residence. Even with the guestwing and restaurant/lounge it looks very much like just another house along the island coast. Even more important, it feels that way—cozy, friendly, unpretentious and comfortable. If Reef House were a pair of shoes, it would be your favorite leather boat shoes in the front of the

Special adventures await Reef House guests—nearly every dive site is a dramatic wall. Left: Reef House managers David and Karla Bogran. The resort is on a small islet off the larger island of Roatan.



closet, the ones that still take a shine and have molded to your feet. Most people who have visited Reef House call it their home away from home in the Caribbean.

Just getting there is a nostalgic journey. The first part of the trip is rather modern and conventional—a TACA 737 or 767 jet from one of three U.S. gateways landing in San Pedro Sula, Honduras (with a transfer) or flying directly into Roatan. Arriving at the Roatan International Airport is also very conventional, because it's brand new and incredibly modern. It's only on the road from the airport to the resort that you get the sensation of traveling back in time. Once you are past the town of French Harbour, the winding road moves through the rolling hills of a verdant countryside. Here and there are scattered houses on stilts and views of the emerald and turquoise Caribbean on both sides. One-half hour later you enter the seaside town of Oak Ridge, with its gathering of more stilt-houses at the edge of a lagoon. A fleet of pic-

turesque fishing boats lines the adjacent docks. A "taxi" boat arrives from Reef House to take you the final step, a three minute trip across the lagoon. You land on a small islet. And now, the final layers of a busier time and place and a more crowded civilization are left far, far behind.

You actually arrive at the backyard of the pleasant little resort—a spacious indoor/outdoor boathouse and dock. In the finger slips are the two main dive boats, the nicely appointed and designed 40 foot *Henry Morgan*, the resort's flagship, and the speedy *Calico Jack*, a 30 footer powered by a 200 hp outboard. The two boats are for a small group (maximum 10 divers) and a slightly larger group (20 to 24 divers) with a total passenger capacity exceeding that of the resort.

From the boathouse, on the inside

Above left: The speedy 40 foot dive boat, *Henry Morgan*. Above: Authentic island architecture graces the cozy and unpretentious Reef House Resort.



Roatan's spectacular shallow reefs spill over with a bewildering variety of corals and sponges.



or lagoon side of the small islet, a wooden walkway leads past the dive shop and across the narrow island (a short walk) to Reef House's front door. The dive shop, incidentally, is nicely outfitted and is a small but full service facility. Full rentals are available and wet storage areas, equipment rinse tanks and camera tanks are easy to reach. The dive staff takes care of all your diving equipment, including transferring tanks and washing down gear at the end of each diving day. It's only a few steps from the boats to the dive prep areas. Oxygen and marine radios are aboard both boats.

During or shortly after arrival you will meet the resort managers, David and Karla Bogran, a lovely young couple with life experiences that include both island and continental cultures. They are Hondurans, educated in the States, and have lived in the U.S., on the Honduras mainland and, for some time now, on their little island off an island.

The physical property is a residential lot stretching from the lagoon to the oceanfront. The resort proper is U-

WORLD CLASS DIVING

SOCORRO ISLANDS

YET SO CLOSE...

SEA OF CORTEZ

The 112 foot Solmar V is the most luxurious live-aboard operating in Mexico. Based in Cabo San Lucas, the Solmar V offers trips in the summer to the Sea of Cortez and in the winter to the Socorro Islands (Revillagigedos), the last unexplored diving legend of Mexico. Encounters with schooling Hammerheads, giant Mantas, whale sharks, sea lions and migratory whales are likely. Individuals, groups and private charters welcome... Call for more live-aboard info!

Located on the tip of The Baja Peninsula, the Solmar is a secluded resort of intimate size that straddles the Sea of Cortez and the Pacific Ocean. Walking distance from town, all rooms are air-conditioned suites with private balconies. Shopping, nightlife, sight-seeing, two large pools/jacuzzi, golfing, fishing or Solmar's private white sand beach will be sure to make your vacation First Class. Land-based diving packages for groups and individuals... Call for more info!



1-800-344-3349

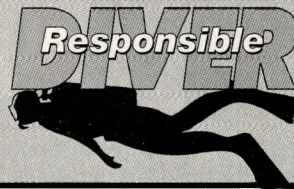
(310) 459-9861 FAX: (310) 454-1686

Diving Provided by



circle #165 on Reader Service Card

Never Dive Deeper Than
the Depth of Your
Experience



COCONUT HARBOUR

- ▶ Open-Air Bar and Restaurant
- ▶ 24 Hour Dive Lockers and Tanks
- ▶ In-Room Mini-Kitchens
- ▶ 10% Discount on Dive Packages
- ▶ Fresh Water Swimming Pool and Jacuzzi

Dive From Your Door Step

- ▶ Boat Dives · Northwall · Stingray City East End · On-site dive shop
- ▶ Shore Diving · Waldo's Reef · Waldo's Wall Off Hotel Dock

1-800-552-6281

"The Dedicated Diver's Resort"

Grand Cayman, B.W.I.

REEF HOUSE RESORT

shaped with a courtyard facing the sea. There are 11 total cottages, mostly in two single story wings, all nicely furnished in an island style and cooled with ceiling fans. There are two special cottages that can be connected as a single suite just to the east of the main wings. They are both air-conditioned, mounted on stilts, facing the sea. The easternmost wing is the kitchen, dining room, social room, gift-shop and, at the end, the indoor/outdoor island bar. The bar is actually a few steps from the exit point of your shore dives.

Notwithstanding the many details, the main highlights of a visit to this fine little resort have to do with hospitality and location. To begin, there is the pleasant isolation. You are most definitely away from it all and living in a style that echoes local living and architecture. The diving environment also benefits from this relative isolation. The quality of the food, both the selection and the preparation, is primary to the Reef House experience. The family-style meals are authentic but not exotic—excellent local fruit and seafood are featured, perhaps the epitome being the best lobster salad and desserts you have ever tasted!

Roatan is a 30 mile long island that is only a mile or two wide. This creates lengthy reefs on both sides that closely parallel the shoreline of both the north and south coasts. The southern coast, where the Reef House is, faces both the gentle trade winds and the mile-deep Bartlett Trough, one of the deepest basins in the Caribbean. The close-hugging fringing reef and the near abyss create a nearly continuous wall very close to shore. Roatan is a popular dive destination with one-half dozen or so well-established dive resorts. This includes Reef House, the most isolated and rurally located of the lot. It is seldom you will see another dive boat on any of the spectacular sites visited by Reef House.

With "nearly every dive a wall dive," a popular saying in Roatan, there is actually considerable variation in the selection of sites. The general reef system can be described as mammoth reefs sectioned into an exaggerated spur and groove system. Like the island itself, the reef is long and narrow; often you can swim to it from shore and the drop-off is usually only a few feet away. All along the wall are huge spires and towers of Star, Starlet and Lettuce Corals, often capped with intricate Staghorn and Elkhorn gardens. Roatan's striking walls are more colorful than most Caribbean drop-offs owing to a rich selection of sponges. This scenery, often reaching a fluorescence in only 50 to 60 feet of water, can be visited in a

long, safe dive profile. Roatan reefs portray some of the greatest assortments of corals and sponges to be found anywhere in the Caribbean.

Another distinct advantage of Roatan walls is the overgrowth of corals above the reef grooves. This creates a seascape of overhangs, canyons, fissures and swim-throughs that approach the description of cavern diving. This provides divers with many sites where meandering trails surrounded by monstrous corals transcend into a maze of tunnels roofed by corals and sponges. At other sites, these clefts may expand to incredible channels 100 feet or more wide and 80 to 100 feet deep.

The most famous example of this dramatic spur and groove system can be found at a site close to the Reef House known as **Calvin's Crack**. Here, divers descend to a plateau on top of the shallow reef facing the wall. An incredible crack through the reef invites an entry that narrows, then widens to an exit along the outer wall. An excellent example of a shallow wall that plunges almost vertically into the abyss can be found at **Church Wall**, also close to the resort. Here is a representative "fish station," featuring the common reef and schooling fish mixed with a usual visit from a variety of pelagic species. A common sight here is the parade-like single-file schools of Creole Wrasse that meander along the top of the wall. An assortment of tangs, groupers and parrotfish swim through nooks and crannies. There are more than 30 established dive sites, most of them permanently moored, all within 25 minutes of the Reef House dock. Much of the reef tract is yet to be explored.

Another important highlight of a visit to the Reef House Resort is the high quality shore diving available night and day. As already mentioned, the reef is a short and easy swim from the coral pathway jutting into the sea or the shore entry area next to the bar. The quality of the shore dive area is nearly equal to the best boat sites, complete with mammoth corals and a nearby drop-off. Another popular profile is dropping divers off the boat after the morning dive and letting them swim back to shore. The dive staff will drop-off and pick up tanks at the shore dive area on request.

The boat dive schedule is generally relaxed. A two tank dive is normally offered each morning but departure times and additional dives can be requested or adjusted by each week's group. Reef House divemasters are all locals with many years of Roatan diving experience.

A wonderful option is usually available each week, weather permitting. A few miles east of the eastern tip of Roatan/Helene (a combination island) is **Barbaretta Island**, perhaps the most pristine of all the Bay Islands. The island is hilly and nearly pure wilderness. The seldom-

Dive Paradise with Bahama Divers



At Bahama Divers, we blend the attractions of the vast marine world of Nassau with the renowned resort pleasures of Paradise Island.

Visit intriguing wrecks and lush shallow reefs like *Barracuda Shoals*. You'll be surrounded by thousands of schooling grunts and goatfish at *Fish Hotel*. Our premier dive site, the *Lost Blue Hole*, offers encounters with stingrays,

sharks, grouper, jacks and some of the largest, friendliest angelfish anywhere. After diving this oceanic wonder, you'll understand why we like to call it our circular wall.

Topside, enjoy white sand beaches, water-sports, championship golf, tennis and more. Walk across the bridge and visit the straw markets and duty-free shops of bustling historic Nassau. Fill your evenings with elegant dining, exciting casinos and glittering night life.

Here on Paradise Island, great dives are only the start of a great day.



- PADI Five Star Training Facility
- Instructor Development Center
- 28 years of diving experience in the Bahamas

Hotel/Dive Packages*

4 Day/3 Night starting from **\$342**

8 Day/7 Night starting from **\$848**

Choose from beachfront hotels or junior suites.

*Prices effective through 4/13/96

© 1993 Michael Lawrence

Bahama DIVERS

Call now to book your stay in Paradise.

800-398-DIVE (3483)

In Nassau 809-393-5644

circle #22 on Reader Service Card

EASE

Eastern Academy of Scuba Education

ONLY AT
EASE

**All Career Classes
INCLUDE Meals & Room**

**BECOME A
PADI
INSTRUCTOR**

**Money Back
Guarantee**

**Career
Classes Include:
Your Room,
3 Meals A Day,
Full Laundry
& Live In Staff!**

International Job Placement ★ Tuition Assistance Available
Small & Personal NO Rush - 8 Day IDC

**416 Miracle Mile
Vero Beach, FL 32960
407-562-2883**

800-732-9685

FAX 407-562-3028

For Information Please Call

circle #67 on Reader Service Card

SKIN DIVER JANUARY 1996 95

The Plaza Resort

Bonaire

200 luxurious suites and villas, new dive boats, a dive shop, conference facility, rental center for cars, boats and scooters, a Pier Bar
...and the best casino on the island!

For reservations & information call

1-800-766-6016

Fax: 617-821-1568

Tel: 011-599-7-2500

343 Neponset St.
Canton, MA 02021

Air Aruba offers direct service from Newark, Baltimore, Tampa & Miami plus most U.S. cities with our partner US Air.



CSD/AAD 1995

circle #88 on Reader Service Card

Responsible
Divers Lead
by Example!



COZUMEL, MEXICO

TWO DECADES OF GREAT DIVING AND SERVICE

1976-1996

For twenty years the Galapago Inn and Scuba Cozumel have been THE place for sport scuba divers to meet and enjoy the very best diving in Cozumel.

Come and Celebrate with us!



Galapago Inn
DIVE RESORT • MEXICO
For Information • U.S.A. & Canada
1-800-847-5708



REEF HOUSE RESORT

dived reefs are a combination of exquisite coral gardens and a dramatic mile-long wall. The island is framed by several coves and white sand beaches, such as **Trunk Turtle Bay Beach**, an excellent picnic, snorkel and scuba site on the north side. Off Barbareta's south coast is a group of three islets, the **Pigeon Keys**, another excellent picnic/ dive site. In front of the islets is **Barbareta Wall**, a continuous dramatic drop-off that usually fea-



TACA's modern 767 and 737 aircraft offer convenient schedules from gateway cities to San Pedro Sula and Roatan.

tures big fish encounters. This is a full day trip from the resort, with lunch aboard or enjoyed between dives at one of the scenic picnic sites.

A special opportunity exists for Reef House guests to sample one of many great mainland Honduras experiences. The Copantl Hotel in San Pedro Sula, a quality leisure class retreat, complete with pool, tennis, casino, sauna, several restaurants, etc., is a hub for exploring topside Honduras. The resort operates Maya VIP Tours, its own travel service, including vans and guides that pick up individuals and groups directly at the airport. The most popular land tour is to the magnificent Maya ruins at Copan, about three hours away. This can be done as a day trip or an overnight stay. Along the way you will see wonderful verdant mountains and charming rural villages. Other Honduras mainland attractions include banana and coffee plantations, whitewater rafting trips, jungle exploration, a visit to tropical gardens and beautiful mountain scenery. There is also an excellent new Archaeological Museum in San Pedro. A Reef House dive trip can be easily combined with one, two or more days in Honduras. Coming back from Roatan, Reef House's dedicated tour service will pick guests up in San Pedro Sula and leave directly for Copan. Or, they can take them to the Copantl Hotel and leave the next morning for Copan. The tour guide and van will stay overnight in Copan as well. The U.S. booking office for Reef House, in San Antonio, Texas, can make air/resort and tour arrangements com-

binning a spectacular dive holiday with a unique Central America land experience.

For more information or reservations contact Reef House Resort, P.O. Box 40331, San Antonio, TX 78229; (800) 328-8897 or fax (210) 341-7942. 🐟

FIJI DIVE AND GOLF CLASSIC

Island Dreams Tours and Travel has designed a way to combine golfing and U/W photography on a group tour to Fiji. Island Dreams' Fiji Dive and Golf Classic begins with a non-stop flight from Los Angeles to Nadi, Fiji, on Air Pacific, the national carrier. Upon arrival, the group will be driven to the Pacific Harbour International Hotel, where they will enjoy four nights' lodging, daily breakfast and three days of two tank boat diving. Diving in Fiji's famed Beqa Lagoon will be provided by Beqa Divers.

Also, the First Annual Island Dreams' Fiji Golf Classic will be held at the scenic 18 hole Pacific Harbour Country Club.

From Pacific Harbour, the group will catch a short Air Fiji inter-island flight to Taveuni, Fiji's Garden Island. There, the program includes five nights' lodging, all meals and four days of two tank boat diving hosted by Rick and Do Cammick, owners of Dive Taveuni Resort.

Upon completion of the stay in Taveuni, the group will be flown directly back to Nadi. The morning will be devoted to a tour of Sleeping Giant National Park and the Nadi Orchid Gardens. After lunch there will be time for some last minute shopping in Nadi before catching the non-stop Air Pacific flight back to Los Angeles. On the domestic flights, Island Dreams' group will receive special consideration from Air Fiji, thus bypassing the baggage weight restrictions that plague most Fiji dive travelers.

Island Dreams Fiji Dive and Golf Classic is scheduled for May 18 to 28, 1996. The price is \$2,795 per person, including air fare from Los Angeles. For more information, contact trip leader Ken Knezick at (800) 346-6116 or via e-mail at info@islandream.com. 🐟

SHARK SUIT ADVENTURE

Nassau Scuba Centre presents a shark suit adventure. You can feed and dive with sharks while wearing your own personal stainless steel shark suit. The adventure includes a shark suit training dive, adventure dive, survivor's certificate and custom video.

There are special qualifying skills that you must be able to do to participate in the shark suit adventure. For information and reservations call your local dive center or (809) 362-1964 or fax (809) 362-1198. 🐟

WE'LL BLOW YOU AWAY

in

THE GALAPAGOS ISLANDS

and

THE BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

on

"Cuan Law"

and

"Lammer Law"



Pioneers and Leaders of the Liveaboard movement for 25 years, we still offer the best crews, the best destinations, the most inspired meals, the friendliest service and the greatest comfort of any live-aboard.

TRIMARINE
BOX 4065
ST. THOMAS, VI 00803
FAX: 1-809-494-5774

©SD/AD 1995

TOLL FREE 1-800-648-3393

BECOME A

PADI INSTRUCTOR

Instructor Development Course Fee Includes:

- Lodging
- Transportation
- Tanks and Weight Belts

KEITH MATTSON,
Course Director 15561

Orlando Florida is an International Travel Destination. Join us for your Diving Career.

FLORIDA DIVING INSTITUTE, INC.
a Division of THE DIVE STATION
★★★★★ PADI 5 STAR IDC
3465 Edgewater Drive / Orlando, FL 32804
FAX (407) 849-1427

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL US NOW 1-800-282-3328



Nassau's Bahama Divers

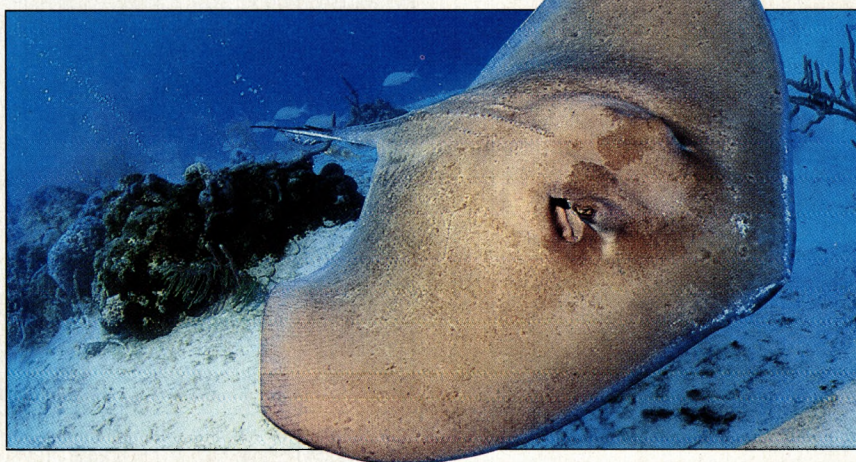
Paradise Topside & Under the Sea

TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHY
BY AL HORNSBY

The Bahamas—Nassau—Paradise Island. For anyone who has ever thought of visiting the tropics, these names conjure up romantic images of what never-to-be forgotten vacations are all about—leisurely strolling down a long, white sand beach, drifting gently in a sparkling, bathtub warm ocean and toasting beneath a blazing island sun, cooled by soft trade winds.

On the other hand, there's dancing to a joyful, pulsing Caribbean beat; squeezing through a crowded, colorful local market piled high with weavings, jewelry, carvings and other island offerings; dining on seafood, fresh each day from nearby waters; exploring quiet back streets in an exotic town that has existed since the 1600s; and enjoying the thrills and flash of a world-class casino.

The reality is that Nassau and Paradise Island are all of these things. This is a place with that perfect mix of natural beauty, local culture and exciting nightlife. And, there's much more. What most people don't realize is that Nassau's most beautiful, exotic sights and memorable adventures actually are found just offshore, under the surface of



Top: A diver swims with French Grunts (*Haemulon flavolineatum*) at Fish Hotel. **Above:** A Southern Stingray (*Dasyatis americana*) glides past the Lost Blue Hole.

the clear, calm waters of the tropical Atlantic Ocean.

Just off the coast of Florida, the coral islands of The Bahamas rise from deep water to be washed by the life giving currents of the Gulf Stream. Huge sand and grass banks, covering many hundreds of square miles, lie among the islands and provide a nutrient-rich nursery that supports an incredible array of marine life.



A curious Tiger Grouper (*Mycteroperca tigris*) in its Barracuda Shoals hideout.

Colorful coral reefs abound, creating yet another environmental niche for marine creatures. For divers, this means there is an intermingling of deep water pelagics and shallow water species, in tremendous numbers, as can only be supported by a healthy marine ecosystem.

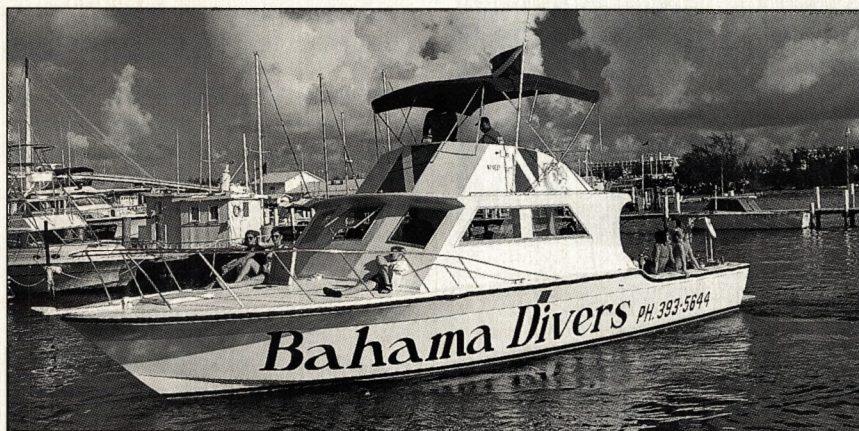
Yet with all that it has to offer as a diving experience, Nassau is not on the "must" list of many veteran divers. Why? Perhaps it's because it isn't remote—just minutes by airplane from South Florida. Or, because it isn't some rustic area where roughing it is a necessity—Nassau is a modern, well-developed re-

pered service. Guests don't have to worry about carrying gear or setting up tanks—a friendly, outgoing staff of 17 takes care of those details. The result is not only repeat business, say Bill and LeRoy, but also a local reputation that brings in new people as well.

"We get a lot of walk-in traffic; people who are here on vacation and want to do a dive or two or nondivers who have thought about diving but never tried it. They hear about us and come by. In fact, we introduce several thousand people to diving each year, through our Discover Scuba Diving programs. We make sure

With seven PADI instructors on staff, Bahama Divers offers a wide array of educational opportunities. These include open water, advanced open water, rescue diver, divemaster, assistant instructor and instructor training, with interesting specialties such as wreck diver, night diver, photography and underwater naturalist also available.

When it comes to catering to the serious dive enthusiast, Bill says, "We are serious divers ourselves and have dived these reefs for many, many years. We know what hardcore divers want and our customer service orientation is in



Above: Bahama Divers' 42 foot boat. Right: The vibrant Nassau Straw Market pulses to an exciting Caribbean beat.

sort destination, after all.

However, over the years, an operation called Bahama Divers has been quietly changing that impression. Near the base of the bridge between Nassau and Paradise Island, Bahama Divers has introduced thousands of new and experienced divers to the wonderful diving Nassau has to offer. Serving the hotel guests of Paradise Island and Cable Beach (while their standard packages are with The Fun Club Hotel, the Comfort Suites and Pirate's Cove Holiday Inn, free van pick-up is available at any of the Paradise Island and Cable Beach properties) for many years, Bahama Divers has developed a regular clientele of customers who return for vacations year after year.

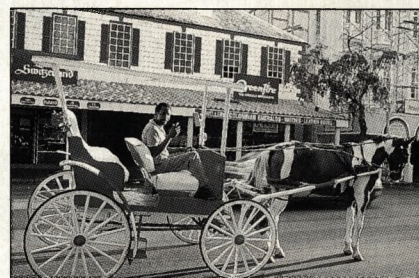
According to Bill Whiteland and LeRoy Lowe of Bahama Divers, "The mainstay of our business has always been our repeat customers. We know that and we intend to keep it that way by offering the kind of service that will bring these divers and their families back to us again and again. From the moment our van picks people up at their hotel until we drop them back off after the dives, we don't want them to have to do anything but enjoy themselves."

Indeed, Bahama Divers provides pam-

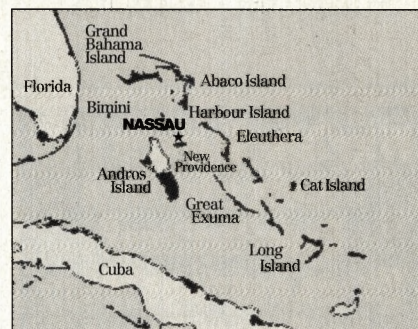


those new people have the times of their lives, because we know they will be our repeat customers, as divers, in the years to come."

But Bahama Divers is aptly suited to the needs of serious divers as well. In business for 32 years, the operation is a PADI Five Star Instructor Development Center and provides full services. As the local distributor for Dacor, Sherwood and the manufacturer of its own line, Bahama Pro, it offers an excellent selection of equipment and a highly professional repair department.



Romantic and exotic Nassau has existed since the swashbuckling 17th century. Many back streets still echo its history.



place for them, too. We have dive and hotel packages that can be booked toll free in the U.S., we can offer four dives a day rather than our normal three, we offer night dives and so on. We also understand the kinds of dive experiences these people want and can provide them."

The diving operations at Bahama Divers show the same attention to detail as the retail facility. There are three large, comfortable boats; two are 42 feet long and the third, used chiefly for snorkeling groups, is 50 feet long. The group's environmental ethic is also very obvious and guests are provided excellent orientations to each diving area.

Bill and LeRoy are clear that their goal is to provide their customers an exciting, natural dive experience. They accomplish this by taking their divers to the types of sites that will provide interactions with many different species of marine animals.

The sites visited regularly by Bahama

DIVE IN PARADISE

Aloha! We're Manta Ray Tours of Hawaii and we want to take you diving to all the great spots in Hawaii and Oahu. Our specialty is Kona's "Famous Manta Ray Night Dive" and our dive shop is located in the Kona Surf Resort which is conveniently located in front of the "Manta Ray Night Dive" location. We offer complete dive packages with hotel, car, fishing and Island Tours. Hiking, watersports, horseback riding and parasailing are many of the other activities to be enjoyed while visiting the beautiful islands of Hawaii and Oahu.

24 HOUR RESERVATIONS

Call us at **1-800-98 MANTA** or
1-808-326-7056!

Manta Ray
Tours of Hawaii, Inc.

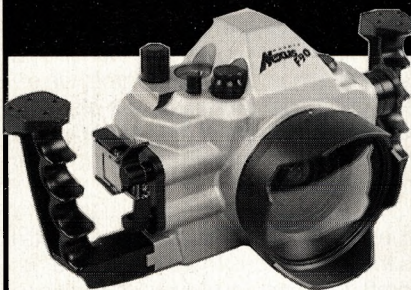
©SD/AD.1995

circle #69 on Reader Service Card

**Coral Reefs Hate
Standing Ovations!**



**Why Take Chances with
Once in a Lifetime
Opportunities?
Nexus Housings Mean
Reliability.**



©SD/AD.1995

**Professional Metal Housings
For Your Favorite Cameras:**

Nikon F4, Nikon N90 & N90s,
Nikon F90 & F90s, Nikon N8008 & N8008s,
Nikon F801, Nikon N6006, Nikon F601
& Pentax LX

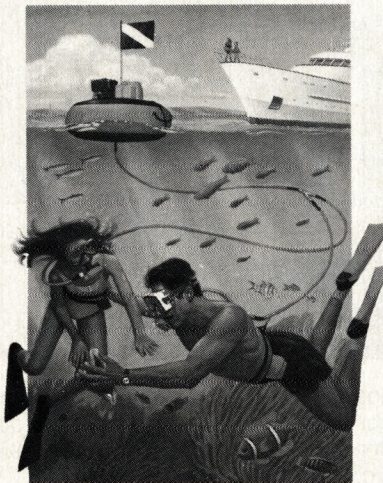
ANTHIS U.S.A. INC.

**144 Railroad Ave., Suite #206
Edmonds, Washington 98020
Tel: (206) 775-3359
Fax: (206) 775-4076**

circle #52 on Reader Service Card

100 SKIN DIVER JANUARY 1996

**ADVENTURE
IS ALWAYS
ON THE LINE.**



BROWNIE'S
Third Lung

Surface Air, and
Tank-Fill Compressors

1-800-327-0412

940 N.W. 1st Street • Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33311

BAHAMA DIVERS

Divers are chosen with these marine life interactions as a high priority. As a result, divers new to the area—or who have not dived here in the last ten or so years—are very surprised at the numbers of fish and other creatures they find. A strong conservation effort by Bahama Divers and other local operations, with increasing support from the Bahamian government, has paid off—fish are present in incredible numbers and are quite willing to mingle closely with visiting divers.

There are many sites to choose from, some of the most popular are discussed below.

The Lost Blue Hole: Bahama Divers is the only operator who regularly visits this mysterious, submarine phenomenon. On a 40 foot deep sandy bottom, a 100 foot wide circular hole drops straight down to 200 feet. The steep sides, cut with grottos and overhangs, are thick with colorful sponges, delicate bryozoans and hydrocorals. Reef tropicals, such as angelfish, snappers and squirrelfish mill about. Schools of pelagics sweep in from deep water; Horse-eye Jacks are frequent and in late summer, rarely seen schooling African Pompano may be encountered. Barracuda and reef sharks patrol the hole's outer edge and, at the top, Southern Stingrays congregate in the sand, as many as five to ten at a time.

Barracuda Shoals: A great second dive, this vibrant, 30 foot deep reef is an underwater photographer's delight. Coral ridges are covered with waving Sea Plumes, soft corals and searods. Schooling French Grunts move slowly about and orange and yellow sponges protrude from coral overhangs. Surrounding the reef is a huge grass bed, worth a brief exploration, where large Cushion Seastars nestle among the green leaves; lovely Queen and Horse Conch are common.

B.J. Wreck: An excellent wreck dive, the *B.J. Wreck* is a 100 foot long freighter that sits on a 55 foot deep sand and coral bottom. Huge schools of Porgies swim around the deck and swarms of Horse-eye Jacks congregate just below the ocean's surface. For photographers, the wreck offers dramatic potentials. The stern section is intact, with a large hold that can be entered. The bow, demolished but still standing upright, tells the story of the sea's power. Hull plates lie scattered about and the ship's huge main fly wheel juts up from the bottom, its base aswirl with schooling snappers and grunts.

Fish Hotel: Named for its amazing numbers of fish, this is a 35 foot deep

ridge, richly overgrown with seafans, seaweeds and other gorgonians. Massive schools of juvenile Blue-striped and French Grunts blanket the bottom, their movements slow as they drift in the gentle ebb and flow of the water. Above, hundreds of juvenile Yellow Goatfish cram together in dense swarms. So numerous are the fish in this one small area that divers can disappear behind living, moving walls of them, at times seeming as if the ocean had chosen this very spot to boast of its bounty.

On your next vacation, consider a visit to Nassau and some incredible dives with the nice people at Bahama Divers. They are ready to introduce you to diving in Paradise.



The exotic diving and romance of The Bahamas is just minutes from South Florida via Gulfstream Air International.

For information and reservations, call the Ft. Lauderdale office at (800) 398-DIVE or (305) 351-9533.

DIVERS ACADEMY OF THE EASTERN SEABOARD

(Continued from Page 35)

derwater cutting and welding, underwater demolition, salvage, dive boat seamanship, bridge inspection and mixed gas diving (both chamber and open water) are also thoroughly explored. Hot water systems, safety standards, hyperbaric chamber operations, underwater photography and video, employment opportunities, the offshore diving industry, the inland diving industry and the use of underwater tools round out the course.

DAES doesn't stop with the basics; it goes the extra mile to be sure students have a well rounded commercial diving background. The school contracts with Krautkramer Branson, Inc., a well known and well respected NDT educator and NDT aerospace technology center, to provide a Level 1 certification course in Non-Destructive Testing (NDT). The students use state of the art equipment to learn ultrasonic testing operations, detectability and inspection techniques, alternate inspection techniques and thickness gauging. Remotely operated vehicle (ROV) and basic troubleshooting procedures are learned using the school's sea otter ROV. The welding course includes

NOW
2
Locations
Key Largo
Ft. Pierce

TAKE THE FIRST STEP

TO BECOME A PADI® INSTRUCTOR WITH...

SOUTH EAST DIVING INSTITUTE®

- ★ Courses Monthly - All Levels
- ★ International Job Placement Service
- ★ Accommodations Donated
- ★ Tuition Financing Available
- ★ Approved for Veterans Training

- ★ All facilities on one convenient 5-acre campus on Florida's Treasure Coast

★ Guaranteed Satisfaction & Certification*

*Or your money back as reviewed and approved by PADI Int'l

- ★ South East Diving Institute is a division of
- ★ Florida Dive Retail Franchises Available
- ★ A Chain of Full Service Professional Dive Stores
- ★ Take the First Step

CALL NOW!

800-FLA-PADI

800-352-7234

OVERSEAS (407) 468-4809 • FAX (407) 466-3444 • Cursos en Español
1717 SOUTH U.S. 1 • FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA 34950
Licensed by the Florida State Board of Post Secondary Schools • License #908 & #1731

DIVE KEY WEST!

INSTRUCTOR CAREER TRAINING
Become a PADI open water instructor in beautiful Key West, Florida with

SOUTHPOINT.
Divers

- Master Scuba Trainer
- Medic First Aid Instructor
- Divemaster
- Rescue Diver
- Advanced Open Water

PADI 5 STAR DIVE CENTER

- Daily Wreck Dives
- Pro 42 Jet Boats
- Total Travel, Dive & Hotel Packages
- Total Quality Service
- Talented, Friendly Staff
- 305-292-9778

800-891-DIVE

On-line E mail address: Southpoint@aol.com

714 Duval Street • 535 Duval Street • Hyatt Resort • Key West, Florida 33040 • Florida State License No. 1716

FIESTA!

Cozumel Style



Tom Hartogensis
DIVE PARADISE

JANUARY INTRODUCTORY 3 NIGHT PKG

\$249⁰⁰
p.p./dbl

- 3 Nights Fiesta Inn Cozumel
- 2 Days 2-tank boat dives (optional 3rd tank for \$10.00)
- Airport transfers • All taxes
- Welcome cocktail
- Welcome shore tank

Valid for stays between 1/2/96 & 1/31/96.

Call...



WHOLESALE INCLUSIVE TOURS

1-800-749-DIVE
(713) 789-3483

© SD/AD1995

DIVERS ACADEMY OF THE EASTERN SEABOARD

40 hours of topside training before students begin welding underwater. Training also includes an extended rigging course, additional inland inspection, an introduction to Haz Mat (Hazardous Material) and a penetration project.

To keep pace with the industry, DAES is constantly purchasing new equipment. A recent addition is a state of the art SIMRAD video system that each student learns to operate. SIMRAD is a handheld camera with lights, a surface viewing screen with VCR and an umbilical connection between the camera and the topside station. The clarity of the images in one to two feet of visibility is remarkable.

To become a student at DAES, you must be at least 18 years of age, have a high school diploma, GED or pass an Ability to Benefit test. Students also must pass a medical examination given by the doctor of their choice, have good mechanical ability, be able to swim competently and have a desire to succeed. They must supply a wetsuit or drysuit, mask, snorkel, fins, weightbelt and safety gear (hardhat, boots and gloves).

To ease the financial burden, DAES participates in a number of financial assistance plans. These include the Stafford Student Loan (GSL), Supplemental Loan to Independent Students (SLS), Loan to Parents (PLUS), the Pell Grant and Veterans Education Assistance. The school can offer these loans and grants because of its Federal accreditation by the Accrediting Commission of the Career Schools and Colleges of Technology.

Housing for DAES students is arranged at a reasonable cost in private homes in suburban Camden County or in private apartments, depending on each student's needs. The private residences include fully furnished rooms with full house privileges and all utilities except telephone.

The Divers Academy of the Eastern Seaboard is a no-nonsense, professionally run organization dedicated to producing the best entry level diver possible. The heart of the school is Tamara Brown, an energetic, intelligent woman who cares greatly about her students and has a passion for her school that shines like a beacon. She knows the commercial diving business and understands what the students need to succeed in their careers. Tamara knows that just teaching commercial diving skills is not enough. She said, "We tell our students that out of 100,000 people in the U.S. who get fired every year, 93 percent are fired for lack of work ethics and not for lack of skill or technical knowledge. We can teach

NASSAU, BAHAMAS

DIVE INTO THIS GREAT PACKAGE



3 Nights/2 Dive Days
\$239
per pers.
double occ.

Includes 3 nights at the British Colonial Beach Resort. Nassau's most popular resort with free non-motorized water-sports, private beach & boat dock, pool, 8 beautiful acres in the heart of Nassau, within walking distance to shopping, sightseeing, straw market and fine dining. Also taxes, housekeeping gratuities, airport transfers, one 2 tank boat dive daily, tanks, weight and weight belt.


**British Colonial
Beach Resort**
NASSAU, BAHAMAS

Sun Divers
800-258-4786

circle #78 on Reader Service Card

students how to dive but that's not going to make them successful. Good work ethics will make them successful. We do our best to teach them good work ethics. Our students know what's expected of them. It is up to them to take the expectations and work with them."

The reasons to start your commercial diving career with Divers Academy of the Eastern Seaboard are clear: real life training conditions, a well rounded staff with your best interests in mind, a curriculum jam-packed with the tools that you will need in the market place, a reasonable tuition fee and a course length that will have you working sooner.

Carlos and Kathy found out the meaning of DAES's slogan, "If you can do it at the Academy, you can do it anywhere." Perhaps it is your turn to find out. Contact the professionals at Divers Academy of the Eastern Seaboard, Inc., 2500 Broadway, Camden, NJ 08104. Call (800) 238-DIVE, fax (609) 541-4355 or join DAES on the first Saturday of each month at the Open House, where you can meet the staff and the students for a first hand encounter with the exciting world of commercial diving. 

HOLIDAY HOTEL/ BOTTOM TIME DIVERS

(Continued from Page 57)

landers Chefie and Clara Paz, Bottom Time offers a complete menu of dive services. There are up to ten boats available, all in the 24 to 26 foot category and most equipped with a canvas top. The most popular outing is a two tank trip offered at 9:00 am and 2:00 pm. Daily single tank trips are available as is a 6:00 pm night dive—any evening with two or more divers. Snorkeling tours are also available daily at 9:00 am and 2:00 pm to destinations such as Mexico Rocks, Hol Chan Marine Park or to Shark-Ray Alley, Ambergris Caye's exciting new animal encounter. Full day snorkel tours to nearby Caye Caulker are also available. Other specialty trips include bird or Manatee watching, picnic trips, mainland river trips and general sightseeing. Bottom Time provides rental gear, general merchandise sales and PADI open water, student referral, resort or advanced courses. Arrangements can also be made for all day or overnight dive trips to **Turneffe Atoll**, **Lighthouse Reef** and the **Great Blue Hole**. As Chefie says, "We offer the whole enchilada."

There are more than 20 miles and 40 established dive sites available along the Belize Barrier Reef one-half mile east and parallel to Ambergris Caye. This is a section of the Great Western Caribbean Barrier Reef, the longest

COZUMEL • NO CATTLEBOATS • COZUMEL • NO CATTLEBOATS

3 TANK BOAT DIVING DAYS ONLY

\$59.00 PER DAY

Ask about our
NEW Cock-A-Doodle
Dives for the avid diver and
early riser. \$75.00 for 3 boat
dives per qualified diver.
Certain restrictions apply.

**50%
MORE
BOTTOM
TIME**



**50%
MORE
VALUE**

COZUMEL SPECIAL

WHEN YOU STAY AT ANY OF THESE GREAT HOTELS

5 Day Dive Packages from \$219	FIESTA INN BARRACUDA PLAZA LAS GLORIAS FIESTA AMERICANA COZUMEL REEF	Special Low Cost Air Fares
--------------------------------	---	----------------------------



TROPICAL ADVENTURES TRAVEL

800-247-3483

WA 206-441-3483 • FAX 206-441-5431

COZUMEL • NO CATTLEBOATS • COZUMEL • NO CATTLEBOATS

circle #77 on Reader Service Card

Little Cayman

THE ISLAND TIME FORGOT

A Caymanian family - owned and operated Diving Lodge with 8 double occupancy rooms with AC, Caymanian cuisine, 2 tank a.m. boat dives on **BLOODY BAY WALL**, unlimited p.m. shore dives. On Request: fishing, night diving, cycling, island tours, picnics to secluded beaches, bird-watching, and nature trails.



SAM Mc COY'S
DIVE US, YOU'LL LOVE US!

For our daily & weekly packages, call:
800-626-0496
PH: 809 94 92891
FAX: 809 94 96821

circle #23 on Reader Service Card

Dive Key Largo




**10 dives
for \$159**

Slip into the Florida Keys' most comfortable and cozy dedicated dive resort.

**Kelly's on the Bay
& AQUA NUTS**

Call 1-800-226-0415
305-451-1622 © SD/AD 1995


circle #142 on Reader Service Card



ISLAND DREAMS


TOURS & TRAVEL


SPECIAL VALUE COZUMEL



**FIESTA AMERICANA
COZUMEL REEF.**

HOTEL






DIVE HOUSE

3 night package from \$229 pp/do
Includes two days of 2-tank boat diving, tax, and complimentary beach tank for your check-out dive.

7 night package from \$549 pp/do
Includes five days of 2-tank boat diving, tax, and complimentary beach tank for your check-out dive.

"We have the knowledge and experience to make your Island Dreams come true!"



Kim Ken Jolene Lisa Mina
Call us TOLL FREE and Save

800/346-6116
Phone: 713/973-9300
Fax: 713/973-8585
E-mail: info@islandream.com
<http://www.islandream.com/island/index.htm>

HOLIDAY HOTEL/ BOTTOM TIME DIVERS

continuous stretch of reef in the western hemisphere. Although there is considerable diversity, sites immediately accessible to Ambergris Caye can be categorized as deep canyons or walls, medium depth to shallow coral gardens and the aforementioned unique Shark-Ray encounter. Most dive sites are 5 to 20 minutes from the hotel dock. Cuts through the reef access the deep sites, which normally offer 70 to 80 foot dive profiles. The outer reef is a continuous massive spur and groove system, which eventually tumbles to a deep wall. The characteristic features of most deep sites are arches, swim-throughs, fissures and canyons that invite a meandering, maze-like exploration.

Most sites feature excellent reef fish populations and the opportunity always exists for exciting pelagic encounters. Water temperatures are typically Caribbean-tropical and visibility nearly always hovers around the 100 foot mark. Popular deep sites Bottom Time regularly visits include **Victoria Tunnels, M and M Caverns, Cypress Canyons** and **Tres Cocos** (three coconuts).

The coral garden type dives are typified by **Hol Chan Marine Park**, Ambergris Caye's most popular shallow dive site. Just 15 minutes south of the dock, this protected area features a great species richness, including groupers, snappers, angelfish, parrotfish, eels and Barracuda. Other excellent shallow sites recommended for scuba or snorkeling are **Mexico Rocks** and **Tuffy Rocks**.

Ambergris Caye's most unique diving experience is **Shark-Ray Alley**, a world-wide exclusive. On a shallow sand, grass and patch coral bottom close to Hol Chan is a natural amphitheater that presents a Nurse Shark and stingray spectacle. Snorkelers and scuba divers can expect to find, without delay, up to 10 or 12 Nurse Sharks and as many Southern Stingrays. The dance of the sharks and rays will appear upclose and, at times, personal, as the three and a half to four and a half foot sharks and three to four foot wide rays glide by within a few inches of each diver. Divemasters usually bring food scraps and feed the actors, at which time you will probably want to sit back and watch. It's a hoot and a video or photo-op you won't want to miss.

Offdiving hours at the hotel are quickly consumed with relaxation or a variety of experiences. Town or beach walks are probably the most popular and obvious activity; there are dozens of shops, restaurants and lounges within a short walk of the hotel. Holiday Hotel offers daily glassbottom boat tours aboard the Reef

CAYMAN DIVING LODGE

at Grand Cayman's
East End!

Experience the Cayman of
yesterday! We guarantee the
best value & the best diving
in the islands!

INCLUSIVE DIVE VACATION PACKAGES

All services (dive operation,
dining, bar, lodging) are
located on-site at our small
secluded beachfront
diving lodge.

1-800-TLC-DIVE
US & CANADA, FAX 806-798-7568

circle #144 on Reader Service Card

Silent World

Dive Center, Inc.

DIVE KEY LARGO

10 DIVES FOR
\$159⁹⁵
INCLUDES TANKS & WTS

**BAYFRONT
ACCOMMODATIONS
AVAILABLE**

Quiet • Uncrowded • Unique

Silent World caters to all
levels of divers, running small,
personalized charters. We even
offer snorkeling and SNUBA in
the Marine Sanctuary for your
non-diving family and friends.

1-800-966-DIVE
P.O. B. 2363 • Key Largo • Florida • 33037 • 305-451-3252

Seeker for non-divers. The reception desk, open from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm, is your headquarters for all travel arrangements, including reconfirmations, island tours, fishing tours and a smorgasbord of Maya sites and jungle treks on the mainland. Celi's Beach Barbecue is a traditional island party offered each Wednesday evening at 6:30 to visitors and locals alike. Pork, chicken and fish are served with flour tortillas, beans and coleslaw.



TACA's modern 767 and 737 jet aircraft fly nonstop to Belize daily from the U.S. gateways of Miami, New Orleans and Houston, with immediate connections from Los Angeles and San Francisco.

The San Pedro Holiday Hotel and Bottom Time Dive shop combine great diving with true island charm. For reservations and information, contact: (800) 382-7776. In Belize call 011-501-26-2014; fax 011-501-26-2295.

ADVENTURE CLASS LIVE-ABOARDS

(Continued from Page 59)

Shark—in my memory those moments are seamlessly woven with Kevin Baldwin's "25 years of living in PNG" stories, a procession of memorable meals and cabins whose decor rivals those of the finest private yachts. Of course, a cruise like that stands out in one's memory. I have eagerly recommended *Tiata* to serious divers ever since!

Yet another adventure from the Whale Shark adventure: *True North* is powerful and fast; when the captain hits the throttles this baby gets up and goes! So there we are, hearts palpitating, standing on the broad, three step staircase that runs across the entire stern of the ship. The white wake foams like maddened beer behind us. Above, in the cloudless West Australian sky, our spotter-plane pilot George dips his wings as he watchfully circles. On the bridge the radio crackles; *True North* alters course and thunders toward another Whale Shark rendezvous.

Moments later we all hit the water simultaneously, 30 yards ahead of the Whale Shark. Like a mini mothership, the huge shark emerges from the endless blue. Riding its bow waves are 40 or 50 juvenile Golden Jacks. The shark slows, its eyes clearly scanning us. I try my

Lucrative Sport Diving Careers for Everybody!

Graduates
100%* Placed
Worldwide
1992-'93-'94



NO PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE OR WAITING PERIOD REQUIRED

Home Study or Full Residence • Full or Part Time Placement
Gold Instructor • Divemaster • Resort • Store • Business Programs

100% TUITION FINANCING
Approved applicants

Approved for Veterans Training

1-800-331-4255 Nationally

305-743-5929 In Florida

FAX 305-743-8168

1994 Overseas Hwy.



Bob Brayman's
NAUI
INTERNATIONAL DIVING

CAREER
INSTITUTE

at Faro Blanco Resort & Hall's Diving Center • Marathon, Florida Keys 33050

* 100% 1992-93 FETPIP; 1993-94 100% placed 6 out of 8 types of Instructor courses. 97% placed on an average of all institute programs including Divemaster and Repair Tech. As a result of a vocational program review, locally collected vocational student follow-up data have been used to compile this information. The methods used to collect this information are specified by state laws and rules. These data are available for inspection upon request. Licensed by State Board of Independent Postsecondary, Vocational, Technical, Trade and Business Schools Lic# 94

Florida Keys at Its Best!



HALL'S
DIVING
CENTER
& CAREER INSTITUTE

Special Dive, Airfill and Lodging
Packages (3, 5 & 7 Night)

As
Low: \$67⁰⁰ Per
Person

AMERICA'S MOST BEAUTIFUL REEF
AND WRECK DIVING *awaits you!*

Stay in a moderate cottage or a luxurious suite while diving the magical sunswept Florida Keys. Explore the *National Marine Sanctuary* in such famous places as Sombra, Looe Key and the 189' long "Thunderbolt" wreck to name just a few.

1-800-331-HALL (4255)
305-743-5929 in Florida
FAX 305-743-8168

Hall's Diving • 1994 Overseas Hwy • Marathon, Fl. Keys 33050

WINSTON McDERMOT'S AFFORDABLE
CAYMAN BRAC
AND
LITTLE CAYMAN

\$655. 7-nights, acc. in luxury room;
\$895. 6-days of 2-tank boat dives; Shore nite
dives & unlimited air for shore dives.
ALL INCLUSIVE! All the above
+ 3 meals per day and tax & transfers.

BRAC CARIBBEAN is now Cayman Brac's newest & finest
full service luxury dive resort with dive-shop, dive-dock, bar, restaurant
& pool. Our new location. Call us for absolutely the very best
accommodations & prices in condos, villas, hotels and private homes
on all three islands. No one knows these islands as we do! 19 years
experience and we're Caymanian owned and operated

GENEROUS COMMISSIONS for dive shops!
\$1395.* LITTLE CAYMAN DIVER

* Restrictions apply • Former luxury 90' mega yacht.
Very exclusive with 10 passengers max in 5 private cabins
each with its own private head & shower. 24 hours of
unstructured diving. Our small ad saves you BIG!

BRAC AQUATICS P.O. Box 273781
Tampa, FL 33688 • 800-544-2722, 813-962-2236

circle #55 on Reader Service Card

Dive Nebraska!



Millions of years ago, the midwest
was THE dive destination. Let

Reef & Rainforest take you to
today's ultimate dive sites – Palau,
PNG, Thailand,
the Red Sea,
the Caribbean...
and beyond.



Call:
800 794-9RNR It's time for some R&R!

circle #51 on Reader Service Card



**with the best service
with the lowest prices
with 25 years experience**

**BELIZE ♦ BONAIRE ♦ CAYMAN
COSTA RICA ♦ COZUMEL
CURACAO ♦ DOMINICA
GUANAJA ♦ ROATAN ♦ SABA
ST. LUCIA ♦ TURKS & CAICOS**

1-800-328-5285

5610 Rowland Road #100, Minnetonka, MN 55343
Fax: (612) 931-0209 Compuserve: 75224,3510


circle #84 on Reader Service Card

**HOW TO BOOK
YOUR BONAIRE
DIVE VACATION.**

Our FREE GUIDE TO BONAIRE includes maps, lodging descriptions, discount travel information & package prices along with NEW lodging and diving options!

**CALL
THE
BONAIRE
EXPERTS!**


(800)748-8733 (601)353-7547



circle #33 on Reader Service Card

**GRAND CAYMAN
AFFORDABLE!**

From **\$140** p.p.d.o.
2 Tank Dive
2 Nites accom.



Over **100** properties to choose from when you dive with **Jackie's Watersports**
10 Divers maximum and Stingray City trips for the whole family

U.S. Booking: **800-450-2084** (Air, Land, Dive)
Fax: 218-722-7672 (Free Camera Rental)
In Cayman 809-947-5791, Fax: 809-945-3762

circle #146 on Reader Service Card

**DIVE RIGHT IN
at SLEEP INN**

**Grand Cayman's Newest
Hotel for Value-Minded Visitors**



▲ Comfortable Accommodations
Watersports Concierge ▼



**Special Dive Package
- 3 Nights,
2 Day Scuba**

as low as \$279.00*

You'll appreciate our friendly, professional staff and personalized services at Dive Inn which will make your visit to Grand Cayman the best ever.

Whether you are an experience diver or getting your feet wet with other watersports activities - Dive Inn caters to all your watersports needs.

Call about our best rates!
* Price includes room tax, service and diving.

1-800-322-0321
(305) 489-7750 • Fax (305) 351-9740
5601 Powerline Rd., Suite #206 • Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33309




circle #35 on Reader Service Card

ADVENTURE CLASS LIVE-ABOARDS

mind-meld but the great opaque shape moves on and I fall behind.

Back on *True North* that night, under thousands of mighty stars, we rave: "Did anyone, anywhere in the world today, see what we saw? Not a chance, baby! Maybe somebody somewhere saw a Whale Shark. Maybe they even saw two. But ten? Oh, no. That's all ours."

These are moments no one can ever take away, they are yours forever. The great dive boats deliver them consistently; it is precisely that consistency that earns the leaders their reputations.

These leaders innovate, too. One of our conversations aboard *True North* was, "Let's build a cage and feed Tiger Sharks at **Rowley Shoals** next October." They're out there. Rarely seen, almost never photographed. One of the last of the big animals we'd like clients to see. If they can be delivered, we want to do it.

I read a lot of letters from dive travelers and I am often amazed by the bonding some skippers achieve with their guests. Bob and Dinah Halstead on *Telita* in Papua New Guinea have created a veritable cult following with their care, knowledge and delivery of dramatic encounters. Avi Klapfer's renown at Cocos Island was earned on dozens of high-intensity cruises aboard *Undersea Hunter*. Navot and Tova aboard *Ocean Hunter* in Palau get letters in which the phrase, "the best cruise ever" shows up with astonishing regularity. Rob Barrel and his dedicated crew aboard *Nai'a* are earning a constant stream of praise by showing divers marine life they never knew Fiji could offer—sharks and mantas. Sure, the soft corals and reef fish are superb but Fiji takes on a whole new dimension when sharks are whizzing past your ears.

As I was contemplating those stand-out moments of the past year the three diamond-facets kept showing up. The animals were there. The boats provided the amenities. And the crews had that special something in service, knowledge and competence.

Imagine yourself on *Golden Dawn* now, in the northwestern corner of the Coral Sea. This ocean is renowned for its clarity. There are tidal currents that have carved building sized canyons through the great vast wall of the atoll. You drop into the water, nothing around you but the open song of the sea.

Suddenly, you realize a current is carrying you gently toward what looks like a mountain. That mountain's colossal solidity, however, is seen through a shifting screen of silver life—hundreds, no, thousands of Rainbow Runners, jacks, Fusiliers, Barracuda, Bannerfish, Chub,

Flying Fish, sharks and turtles—you name it, it's there in mind-numbing complexity. Then back to the boat, where Captain Craig DeWit says, "Oh, you like that place, eh?" while his smile says, "I knew you would!"

If you have never had the transforming experience of going beyond the ordinary, you might consider a vacation on a world-class live-aboard. Over the span of 25 years I can tell you one important fact: More than 95 percent of those who experience a world-class live-aboard take only live-aboard vacations thereafter. This meaningful statistic cuts through the clutter of a crowded industry. Great live-aboards are indeed transforming experiences and you will find your ideas of marine creatures (and dive vacations) permanently altered.

Here is another memorable adventure. We dropped off the *Poseidon Quest's* tender expecting to go to the bottom at 60 feet. Someone said there were Gray Sharks patrolling and someone else had glimpsed a Hammerhead. The water was so clear it made your eyes ache, the kind of conditions photographers kill for and the reason divers cruise hundreds of miles to these remote Red Sea reefs.

I never got down to the reef. Ten feet beneath the placid surface a great gray shape with cat-slit eyes scythed past in a sweeping arc that proclaimed total confidence. Soon there was a second shark, then a third. They were big Silkies; open water, off-the-coast sharks. You don't see them on reefs like this.

Right.

Like an airplane dogfight in a clear blue sky, the sharks and I danced a three hour ballet. Only a school of curious Barracuda watched us. Every once in a while a Silky would arc right through the Barracuda and they would begin following it in a funnel-flow.

Those powerful, sweetly sinister sharks gave me hours of memorable magic. It was for me just another perfect day on a world-class live-aboard. It was me, this time. It could have been you just as easily.

For more information contact: See & Sea Travel, Inc., 50 Francisco Street, #205, San Francisco, CA 94133; (800) DIV-XPRT or (415) 434-3400; fax (415) 434-3409. Address e-mail to divxpert@ix.netcom.com. The Internet address is <http://www.shicho.com/shicho/see&sea> or <http://www.batnet.com/shicho/see&sea>.

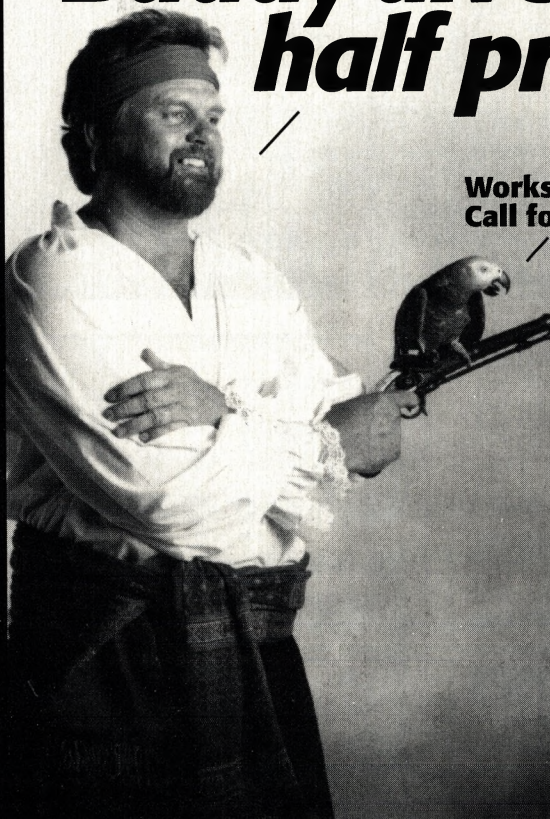
**Always Make
Your Deepest
Dive First**



Treasure Island
DIVERS

GRAND CAYMAN, B.W.I.

**Dive with us and your
Buddy dives for
half price!**



**Works for me, Cap'n.
Call for details.**

Cayman Direct **1-800-872-7552**

For complete vacation planning, including Air & Accommodations

FAX 809-949-7125 Some restrictions apply, holiday weeks excluded.

Offer valid through April 15, 1996

circle #124 on Reader Service Card

BEAT THE JANUARY BLUES

\$449
P.P.D.O.

**BEST
VALUE IN
LITTLE
CAYMAN!**

7 nights accommodations in deluxe oceanfront A/C villa equipped with kitchenette. Includes: room tax, gratuities, airport transfers. Customize your own vacation. Diving, Fishing, Birdwatching, Nature Trail, Bicycles and Fresh Water Pool. Meal plan available at the Hungry Iguana on premises.

2 Tank Dive \$60.00

Paradise Villas

PO Box 30 • Little Cayman, BWI

(809) 948-0001

(809) 948-0002 fax



©SD/AD 1995

circle #40 on Reader Service Card

**EXOTIC
Thailand**

**Exotic Diving for
Caribbean Prices**

Fantasea (7 nights) \$1360
Burma Banks
Andaman Explorer (6 nights) \$880
Similian Islands



ADVENTURE EXPRESS

800-443-0799

415 442-0799

FAX 415 442-0289

circle #18 on Reader Service Card

the new Turneffe Island Lodge

Turneffe Island Atoll, Belize

'We live where others bring their guests for a treat!'



a Private Island Resort

- Located at the world famous Elbow... Belize's premiere marine life encounter • newly renovated rooms, boats, dining & lounge facility
- air conditioned rooms available • superior Caribbean cuisine
- world class sportfishing... flats and deep sea

1-800-874-0118 • fax 904-641-5285

circle #137 on Reader Service Card

BREITLING, ZODIAC, TAG HEUER, PORSCHE, AUTHORIZED SALES.

Dive watch repair center. Ron Gordon master watch maker. Rolex and all brands repaired and water pressure tested.
516 5th Ave. at 43rd., Rm 303
New York, NY 10036.

(212) 869-8999 or 800-869-0889



Key West Diver, Inc.

Call for information

1-800-87-DIVER

World's Foremost Authority in Scuba

circle #122 on Reader Service Card

teenagers AGES (13-19)

summer • TURKS & CAICOS

dive • RED SEA

adventure • CARIBBEAN

PADI Cert. - all levels
Live - aboard diving
Marine Bio Study
Dive Travel

broadreach Other Programs: Sailing, Kayak, Wilderness
TEL: 919-833-1907 • FAX: 919-833-2129

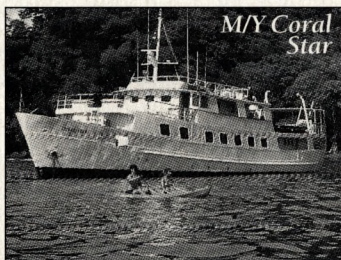
circle #130 on Reader Service Card

CAYMAN BRAC ESCAPE!

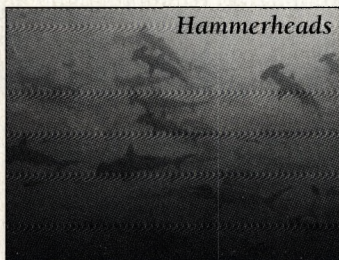
New, deluxe 2-3 BDR homes on secluded palm-shaded white sand beach. Restaurant, top rated dive shop, friendly people. Complete dive packages from \$557/week.
The Caribbean's best diving!

ALMOND BEACH HIDEAWAYS
For a free brochure call 1-800-972-9795

P A N A M A presents... AQUATIC ADVENTURES, INC. M A L P E L O



M/Y Coral Star



Hammerheads

aboard the "M/Y Coral Star"



Call us today for the
pelagic adventure of a lifetime !!!

(800) 897-1210 • (409) 291-9594

Fax: (409) 291-9597

© AD/SD 1995

circle #87 on Reader Service Card

AGGRESSOR FLEET NEWS

Next January through March, guests aboard the luxury live-aboard, *Turks & Caicos Aggressor*, will have a unique chance to witness the Humpback Whales' annual mating rituals, breeding and birthing off Silver Banks, 80 miles north of the Dominican Republic. Annually over the past three years, nearly 100 Humpbacks have been spotted frolicking with their calves amid the pinnacles here.

Guests of the *Turks & Caicos Aggressor* will climb into small Zodiacs to seek a "close encounter of the leviathan kind." They'll have the unforgettable opportunity to snorkel and free dive with our brothers of the deep—all while maintaining an unobtrusive presence in the Marine Sanctuary.

While not on the trail of whales, guests will dive the wreck of the *Polyxeni*, a 300 foot sealife hostel resting amid 80 foot pinnacles.

The *Turks & Caicos Aggressor* will depart Grand Turk each Saturday evening, with the exception of the January 13 charter, which leaves from Provo. Itineraries will be determined by sightings, weather, guest consensus and the captain's discretion. Weekly charters are priced at \$1,595 and are scheduled to depart each week from January 13 to February 24, 1996. An exclusive Sail With Jean-Michel Cousteau charter, led by the famed underwater explorer, is offered the week of March 2 at \$2,595.

In an ongoing program, U.S. Divers will supply Aggressor Fleet vessels with a full line of its latest diving gear, thereby standardizing equipment used by instructors, crew and guests.

According to Dave Stancil, vice president of U.S. Divers, "Plans are also underway for the establishment of periodic technical seminars hosted by U.S. Divers personnel aboard scheduled trips in 1996."

For reservations or a complimentary brochure, contact the Aggressor Fleet at (800) 348-2628. The *Turks & Caicos Aggressor* is part of the ten vessel world-wide Aggressor Fleet.

NEKTON PILOT'S NEW BAHAMAS ITINERARY

Nekton Diving Cruises announces the addition of a new southern Bahamas itinerary for the *Nekton Pilot*. Through April 1, 1996, the live-aboard will be departing Georgetown, Great Exuma, to dive Rum Cay, Conception Island and San Salvador.

The diving around these remote islands is unspoiled and world-class. As part of the *Nekton Pilot's* relocation and ongoing environmental mooring program, the crew is scheduled to spend three weeks installing a network of permanent moorings throughout the south-

ern Bahamas.

The high tech *Nekton Pilot*, featuring its super stable SWATH design, accommodates 30 guests in luxury staterooms with private bath and shower, large pic-



ture windows and twin or queen sized beds. For more information about the dive cruises aboard the *Nekton Pilot* contact Nekton Diving Cruises at 1057 SE 17th Street, Suite 202, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316. The telephone number is (800) 899-6753 or (305) 463-9324; fax to (305) 463-8938. 🐠

ANSE CHASTANET BAY A MARINE RESERVE

Anse Chastanet Bay at Anse Chastanet Resort in St. Lucia is now a marine reserve. The reserve came into existence after more than two years of planning and community involvement to preserve the extraordinary reefs surrounding the bay. Fishermen and yachtsmen were also accommodated with special designated areas.

Anse Chastanet Resort and its scuba facility, Scuba St. Lucia, offer special packages throughout 1996 that include dives in the newly created marine reserve. Seven night, 12 dive packages with all meals, airport transfers, tax and services start at U.S. \$1,599 per person double occupancy from January 6 through 31 and March 16 through April 16. From May 7 through June 7 the price will be U.S. \$1,299. For more information, contact Anse Chastanet Resort at (800) 459-7000, fax (809) 459-7700 or call Go Diving at (800) 328-5285. 🐠

U.S. NAVY MARK V DIVING HELMET

The Historical Diving Society USA will be raffling off a brand new U.S. Navy Mark V diving helmet. This helmet is the first of 20 limited edition Mark Vs produced by DESCO to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the helmet's introduction to United States Navy service. The helmet is fully functional and is not a reproduction.

This commemorative Mark V comes with a commemorative tag and is numbered one of 20. Tickets for the raffle are \$5 each or five tickets for \$20. The winning ticket will be drawn at the 1996 DE-MA Show, to be held this month in New Orleans. For raffle tickets and further information contact the Historical Diving Society USA, 2022 Cliff Drive #119, Santa Barbara, CA 93109, USA; (805) 963-6610, fax (805) 962-3810. 🐠

110 foot wall

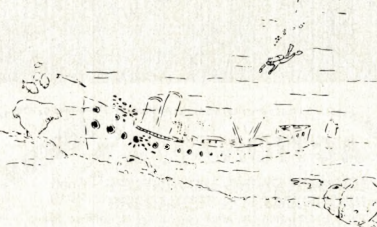
a snorkel away from the bar



One week . . . all food . . .
unlimited diving . . . \$775

Wall and wreck diving right
from the beach. Top rated in
the Caribbean.

Travel arrangements
1-800-282-8932



CoCo VIEW RESORT
Roatan, Honduras Bay Islands



Playa
Miguel
Beach House
Rentals

Beautiful 2 and 3
bedroom oceanfront
vacation rentals on Roatan,
Honduras Bay Islands.
Dive and meal plans available.
For more information, call
1-800-282-8932.

Discover Honduras!

Call 1-800-282-8932



Current Honduras Bay
Island diving conditions:
(904) 588-3046

PO BOX 877
SAN ANTONIO
FL. 33576
904-588-4131
FAX 904-588-4158



E.R. Gammill

- Florida Environmental
Studies Commission
- Associate Porifera Research -
Smithsonian Institute
- Professor of Oceanography
and Coral Reef Ecology
- Over 1000 dives

— Tampa, Florida

"Visibility over 100'. And rode a whale shark."

Utila Lodge offers a full service dive operation and large, air conditioned rooms overlooking the water. All with no hidden costs. Taxes, air transfers, and meals are included in one low price. Want to learn more?



LODGE

Call: 1-800-282-8932.

circle #54 on Reader Service Card



Visit the Cayman Islands without getting out of your chair.

Next month in the
February Issue of
Skin Diver

SPOILED DIVERS... UNSPOILED DIVING

Tortola,
British Virgin Islands

DIVE

- Dramatic U/W pinnacles and canyons
- Blue waters and sun-bathed reefs
- The famed wreck of The Rhone

ENJOY

- Truly outstanding topside scenery
- Beaching, sailing and pure relaxation
- Easy access to dozens of nearby islands

An exceptional combination of distinctive diving and superb tropical attractions.

Michael Lawrence



BASKIN IN THE SUN

Call for hotel/dive packages

800-233-7938

809-494-5854
(Tortola local)

circle #139 on Reader Service Card

Dive Abaco!

...and enjoy underwater
tours on the world's third
largest barrier reef! NAUI
& PADI instructors offering
full cert courses, referrals or
intro lessons! Full Equipment rentals.

P.O. Box AB20555,
Marsh Harbour, Abaco, Bahamas.
phone/fax 1-809-367-2787 (Bahamas)
1-800-247-5338 (U.S.)



circle #12 on Reader Service Card



CAYMAN BRAC LUXURY

New spacious 2 bdrm condos on the sea. White
sand beach, palm trees, sun, restaurant, pool, friendly
people. Dive pkgs from \$670/wk. Free brochure.

BRAC CARIBBEAN BEACH VILLAGE

Box 4-S Stake Bay, Cayman Brac, Cayman Islands, B.W.I.
Call toll free 800/791-7911 • Fax 809/948-1111

ACTION DIVE TEENS!

SUMMER DIVING / ADVENTURE PROGRAMS FOR TEENAGERS Coed 15-19
P.A.D.I. instruction and advanced ratings for certified divers
and referrals. Also offering: skiing, windsurfing, while living and
sailing aboard 47 yachts in British Virgin Islands. 17 years of
teen programs at sea.

P.O. BOX 5507-D, SARASOTA, FL 34277 (813) 924-6789

A GRAND CAYMAN BEACHFRONT HOME

YOUR CHOICE
A small 2 Bd. 1 Ba. as low as
US \$325/wk
or a very large 3 Bd. 3 Ba. as low as
US \$950/wk

circle #42 on Reader Service Card

Little ISLAND BIG Thrills

"A great time! Diving was fantastic, boat was uncrowded and the
dive staff was the most helpful and personable we've ever seen.
A first class dive operation. We plan to come back...."

--Rob & Matt McCall, Orlando FL.

Packages include 3 dives daily, free night dives Wednesdays &
Saturdays, free checkout dives and/or free advanced course, tanks,
weights, hotel accommodations, and ground transportation.

3 days /2 nights from \$199
7 days /6 nights from \$509

Bill & Nowdla Keefe's
BIMINI UNDERSEA ADVENTURES

P.O. Box 21623, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33335

1-800-348 4644

Bimini 809-347 3089 • Fax 809-347 3079



Bimini
In the Bahamas

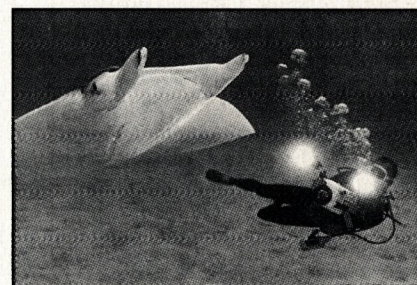


VIDEO COURSE

How to Edit as You Shoot

TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHY
BY JIM CHURCH

You've probably suffered through an evening of watching a beginning underwater videographer's unedited tape. The videographer didn't want to miss anything, so he/she filled a couple of 120 minute cassettes. After you've seen what seems to be a million views of a friendly grouper—the good and bad—the tape moves on to several minutes of a graceful French Angelfish. You look at your watch. Another 20 minutes



Have a goal in mind when you shoot—know your subject, start, end and next subject—but be prepared for any surprises.

of overly-long views of the same subject—often with poor focus, lightning-fast pans and shaky camera handling—and your eyes will give out. Noticing your most recent yawn, the videographer starts pushing the fast forward button to find something more interesting. The fast forward button seems to be his/her only editing tool or technique!

PLAN IT SHORT

The key to editing in camera is to be selective about what you shoot. As I said in past lessons, don't shoot video the way a kid waters the lawn. Don't swing your camcorder back and forth and up and down in an attempt to cover everything you see. Shoot only those scenes and subjects that establish a location, and/or show and resolve some form of action. Try for a finished video that will last 15 minutes or less. As an example,



BUDDY DIVE RESORT

Relax at our brand new luxury waterfront accommodations

- Fully furnished, cable TV, self catering
- One, Two or Three bedroom apartments. Ideal for groups or individuals.
- Buddy's Reef Restaurant on site. Meal plans available.

Dive into warm clear tropical waters at our fully equipped 5 star dive center

- Boat dives daily
- Dive & Drive package with operation based car rental
- Personalized service
- PADI, NAUI & CMAS training facility



FOR INFORMATION, CALL:
Rothschild Travel
800-359-0747
Caribbean Adventures
800-934-DIVE

© SD/AD 1995

circle #59 on Reader Service Card

"J.W. Fishers' PULSE 8X is the highest performance hand held pulse-induction metal detector that money can buy."

Jack Fisher, President
J.W. Fishers Mfg., Inc.

"The PULSE 8X detects all metals, on land or underwater, and features ear phone, meter read-out, and interchangeable coils. The best on the market, it's the choice of the pros."



Under
\$1,200



J.W. Fishers Mfg., Inc.

65 Anthony Street, Berkely, MA 02779
(800)822-4744 Tel. (508)822-7330
FAX: (508)880-8949 or 822-1931

Call for a free catalog or to order our demonstration video.

circle #100 on Reader Service Card

the one-half hour sitcoms you see on TV have only about 26 minutes of actual story, supported by music and dialogue. A one-hour long show had better be good, or you won't watch it.

BEGIN WITH A GOAL

Suppose your goal is to document a dive with one or more dive buddies. You want to show one or more of them entering the water, what they see and do and end with one or more of them returning to the surface. (Unless a large manta or shark glides by, intend to stay with your goal.) Each part of your video story—entering water, underwater activities, etc.—usually requires several shots. A shot begins when you switch from STBY to REC and ends when you switch back to STBY.

THE FOUR BASIC STEPS

Before beginning a shot (or a series of related shots), think through each of the following questions:

1. What is your specific subject?
2. When will you start the shot?
3. When will you end the shot?
4. What will your next subject be?

Don't even think about starting a shot until you've answered these questions! I've had students use tape and a laundry marker to write: "subject, start, end and next" on their housings as a reminder.

Suppose, for example, that your first subject will be a diver stepping off the dive platform of a boat. You position yourself on the upper deck, aim at the diver and zoom for a large enough picture area so you won't have to move the camcorder as you take the shot. Knowing when to end the shot is easy; stop about two seconds after the diver disappears beneath the surface.

Your next subject could be an underwater upward view of a diver breaking through the surface. For you to get this shot, you get into the water first. Tell your subject to wave his arm, count to three and then jump in. Start the shot as soon as he stops waving. Stop the shot a couple of seconds after the break-through. Why? Because most divers bob to the surface, sometimes adjust their gear and reach for a camera. These actions are time-consuming and boring to watch. You should already know what the next shot will be. Get below the diver and start shooting after he begins his descent. End the shot after he passes you on the way to the bottom.

Let's stop and summarize the shot list you could use to take your viewers underwater:

1. LS (long distance shot): Topside, diver steps off platform.
2. LS: Diver breaks through surface.
3. LS: Diver descends past you.

EXCLUSIVE DIVER MEMBERSHIP

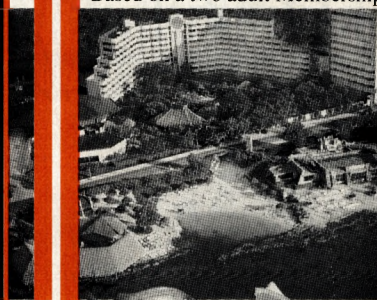
GRAND CLUB
SOL CARIBE
COZUMEL



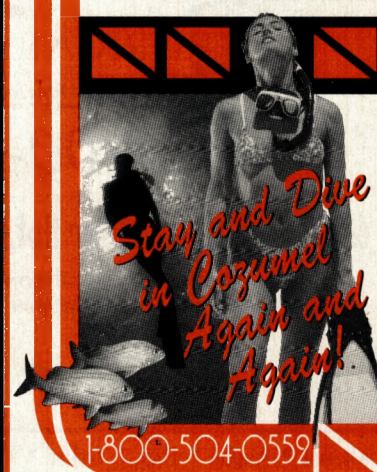
\$139

PER MONTH
PER PERSON*

*Based on a two adult Membership



Unlimited Diving
Unlimited Visits
Unlimited Activities
Unlimited Luxury Hotel
Unlimited Domestic Drinks
Unlimited Meals and Snacks



1-800-504-0552

Call for your Passport to
Unlimited Diving in Cozumel.

circle #115 on Reader Service Card



THE GREAT ESCAPE

ESCAPE TO A TROPICAL PARADISE SO SECLUDED, SO PRIVATE, SO ULTIMATELY AWAY THAT NO ROADS LEAD THERE. ESCAPE TO A SPANISH VILLA RESORT WITH WORLD-CLASS SCUBA DIVING, BONE FISHING, FRESH WATER SWIMMING POOL, TENNIS AND HIKING TRAILS. AN ISLAND OF INCOMPARABLE NATURAL BEAUTY TO EXPLORE. ESCAPE TO POSADA DEL SOL - THE WONDER'S ALWAYS THERE.



POSADA DEL SOL

1-800-642-3483
GUANAJA, BAY ISLANDS

1201 US HIGHWAY ONE, SUITE 210 • N PALM BEACH, FL 33408 • 407-624-3483

circle #16 on Reader Service Card

Grand Cayman

Like You've Never Seen It Before!

Get away from the crowds and dive where few have been before you. Tortuga Diver's new fleet of custom boats will take you in speed and comfort to the breathtaking Walls and reefs of the East End. Located at the luxurious Moritt's Tortuga Club, we offer daily dive trips and complete dive packages.

CALL NOW!

GREAT SOUTHERN
ISLAND ADVENTURES

800-748-8733

Phone : 809-947-2097 Fax : 809-947-9486



TORTUGA DIVERS
EAST END-GRAND CAYMAN

circle #157 on Reader Service Card

Dive Kona Hawaii

6 nights hotel • 6 days rental car
3-2 tank boat dives \$390. pp/d. occ



© SDIAD 1995

1-800-525 PADI

King Kamehameha Hotel

75-5660 Palani Rd

Kailua-Kona, HI 96740

1-808-329-KONA

circle #13 on Reader Service Card

ALL AMERICAN DIVERS IS SAIPAN'S

PREMIER 5 STAR. AS GOOD

AS DIVING GETS! NEW

SUPER DIVE BOAT.

PKGS AVAIL. WE SPEAK

ENGLISH & LOVE TO DIVE.

(670) 235-7056 PHONE/FAX.

circle #26 on Reader Service Card

Arthur & Michelle Shore

(FORMERLY OF TROPICAL CONCEPTS, INC.)

Proudly Announce The Opening Of Their New Company...

TROPICAL TOURS, INC.



Wholesale Dive Travel Specialists

1-800-711-4700

(713) 855-6900

Cozumel's Casa del Mar Hotel

4 Days & 3 Nights Accommodations

Food/BEVERAGE DISCOUNT COUPON from

MEXICAN HOTEL TAXES

2 Days Boat Diving

SHORE DIVING

GROUND TRANSFERS

\$228⁰⁰

PP/Double Occ./Diver

* AKUMAL * ARUBA * BAJA * BELIZE * BONAIRE * CANCUN * CAYMAN * COZUMEL *
* CURACAO * GUANAJA * LIVE ABOARDS * PLAYACAR * PUERTO AVENTURAS * ROATAN *

.....AND MORE!

circle #91 on Reader Service Card

VIDEO COURSE

Having established that the divers are underwater, concentrate on what they see and do. When diving on a wreck, for example, you might get inside or close to the wreck and shoot the divers as they approach, holding the camera as steady as possible. As the divers swim, pan slowly and evenly to follow their movements. If they swim too fast, let them swim out of frame and stop the shot.

After you shoot the divers approaching, what will you shoot next? Concentrate on one diver at a time and document his or her activities. If someone examines the helm of a sunken vessel, get a frontal shot of the inquisitive diver. Again, the question: "What's next?" You can move in for a diver's view of the helm. Now, you can end with a view of the diver swimming away.

Getting back to our shot list, we can add:

4. WS (wide angle shot): Divers approach wreck.

5. MS (medium distance shot): Diver examines helm.

6. CU (close-up shot): Diver's close view of helm.

7. MS: Diver's full view of helm.

8. MS to LS: Diver swims away.

Having finished with the helm, you look around and see another diver looking at a lionfish. You swim toward the diver, gain some momentum and then glide in as you shoot the diver looking at the lionfish. You already know what your next shots will be: You'll shoot one or more CU shots of the lionfish, from different angles, followed by a CU of the diver's face as she looks at the lionfish. You end with another MS of the diver and lionfish, followed by an MS to LS shot of the diver swimming away.

The additions to the shot list are:

9. LS to MS: Diver looking at lionfish.

10. CU (one or more): Close-up views of lionfish.

11. CU: View of diver's face.

12. MS: Diver looking at lionfish.

13. MS to LS: Diver swims away.

Pleased with your lionfish sequence, you search for another subject or action. You look to your left and see a still photographer and her partner taking fish close-ups. She is holding a Nikonos with Close-up Outfit and he is using food to lure the fish into the framer. They are good subjects but before rushing in and starting a shot, think through the four steps. The subject is obviously the interaction between the divers and the fish. You can start your first shot by gliding in as you shoot; this allows you to zoom from LS to MS by

(Continued on Page 120)



Rates \$498.00 for 6 consecutive ads, \$768.00 for a full year.
Add \$81.00 1st line Bold. PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY
 COPY via bank draft or international money in U.S. funds.
DEADLINE: 28th of 3rd month prior to issue date. Send copy
 and payment to Overseas Divers' Directory, SKIN DIVER
 Magazine, 6420 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90048-5515.
 For more information call (213) 782-2245.

AFRICA

HEMINGWAYS ADVENTURE DIVING IN AFRICA 800-443-0799

Combine a SAFARI with diving. Hemingways on Kenya
 Coast experience real Africa above and below the water. Call
 for prices & customized itineraries FAX:415 442-0289
MANTA REEF LODGE 800-247-3483
 Pemba Islands only dive resort. Fax 206-441-5431
 East Africa absolutely best diving. 206-441-3483
 Complete wildlife safaris. Discounted airfares.

POSEIDON QUEST 800-247-3483
 Deluxe live-aboard in northern Zanzibar. Fax 206-441-5431
 Wildlife Safaris Diving in Kenya/Tanzania. 206-441-3483
 Rated 9.9 by "In-Depth Magazine"

ANTIGUA

DOCKYARD DIVERS 809-460-1178 Fax 809-460-1179

Nelson's Dockyard Box 184 Antigua
 Antigua's beautiful south coast. Yachting ctr, sensational
 sites within 1 mile. Sales. Rental. Accom. Pkgs. PADI certs.

ARUBA

ARUBA PALM BCH RESORT/UNIQUE SPORTS
 PH: 011 2978 60096 (shop) 305-427-5488 (Res.) Oranjestad,
 Aruba. Complete PADI Dive Ctr. & full watersports fac.
 40 ft. boat on-site at resort. Dive/hotel pkgs. avail.

PELICAN WATERSPORTS Ph. 011-2978-31228
 PADI INT'L Dive Center, Fax 011-2978-32655
 wreck, reef, night dives. Instruction, equipment.
 Complete watersports activities.

SCUBA ARUBA 011-2978-34142
 Daily Scuba instruction, reef, wreck, night dives. Rates
 include all equipment. PADI staff, special group rates upon
 request. Fax 011-2978-75797 Address Box 4100 Noord Aruba

AUSTRALIA

AUSTRALIA'S FINEST - THE REEF EXPLORER 800-443-0799

Most exp. owner-operated boat for "Off The Beaten Track".
 Coral Sea/Far North GBR, 10 divers/4 crew. A/C cabins \$900-
 \$2750 (up to 40 dives) 415 442-0799/fax 415 442-0289

AURIGA BAY II-EXCLUSIVE ADVENTURE DIVING 800-443-0799
 Far Northern GBR/Coral Sea-10 divers in a/c cabins \$995-
 \$2695. Family or small group charters available. Dive with
 the "Original Specialists" 415 442-0799/fax 415 442-0289

MIKE BALL DIVE EXPEDITIONS call direct 415-243-9215
 252 Walker Street, Townsville, QLD 4810 Australia
 Coral Sea, Cod Hole, Barrier Reef, Yongala aboard
 WATERSPORT, SUPERSPORT or SPOILSPORT.

BARRIER REEF DIVING SERVICES PH/FAX 011-61-79-465-130

P.O. Box 42; Airlie Beach, QLD Australia 4802 Whitsunday
 Islands, Great Barrier Reef - Encounters of all kinds!
 PADI 5 Star Training Facility - Day and Extended Dive Tours
DEEP SEA DIVERS DEN Ph 61-70-312223 Fax 61-70-311210
 P.O. Box 5264 Cairns Qld 4870. Specializing in 3 day, 2 night
 live-aboard cruises. Daily to Outer Barrier Reef. Courses
 to instructor level. 5 Star PADI Dive Ctr. Boat Charters.

OZ DIVE 800-472-7234 Fx703-406-2704
 Great Barrier Reef Reservations Service M-F/9-5 (EST)
 Representing all dive operators, hotels, islands & tours
 Call our professional and friendly staff for quotes.

#1 PACIFIC STAR. 800-247-3483
 Unique Coral Sea & Great Barrier Reef Fax 206-441-5431
 expeditions aboard the 62 foot catamaran 206-441-3483
PACIFIC STAR. Beautiful. Regular departures.

LEARN TO DIVE ** PRO DIVE CAIRNS 800 443-0799
 PADI 5 STAR CENTER. Full certif. courses from \$320.00.
 Weekly classes/all equip AND 3 days/2 nights on live-aboard
 included! More!! fax 6170 519955/call 6170 315255

PRO DIVE WHITSUNDAY PH. 61 79 466508 Fax 61 79 465007
 Great Barrier Reef 3 day 3 night dive/sail cruises.
 One day reef adventure tours. PADI 5 star centre with
 courses from beginner to instructor level.

TIGER SHARK ADVENTURE! REEF EXPLORER 800/886-7321
 Tiger Shark Research Trips 6 nights/7 days. Far north Great
 Barrier & Coral Sea 11 nights/12 days "Excellent Reviews!"
 Dive Discovery CA ph-415/256-8890 fax 415/258-9115

TAKA DIVE Aussie Direct 800-241-7690
 P.O. Box 6592, Cairns OLD 4870 Australia Fax 61 70-312739
 Dive the Cod Hole/Ribbon Reefs on Taka II and Coral Sea on
 Taka III. Large live-aboards. "The Friendly Alternative"

TUSA DIVE PH. 61-70-311248 Fax 61-70-315221
 P.O. Box 1276 Cairns Qld 4870 Personalized day trips, MV
 TUSA, EX Cairns to outer Barrier Reef. Professional information
 & booking of all G.B.R. dive packages. 1-800-472-7234 OZ DIVE

BAHAMAS

BAHAMA DIVERS PH 809-393-5644; 1-800-398-DIVE
 P.O. Box 5004, Nassau. PADI 5 Star. Walls, Blue Hole,
 Wrecks & Rsr. courses. Referrals NASDS & NAUI. Author.
 dealer Bahama Pro, Sherwood & Dacor. FAX 809/393-6078.
BAHAMA ISLAND ADVENTURES/BIMINI 1-800-329-1337
 Best in the Bahamas! Great diving, great island, great people!
 3 days/2 nights = \$349. Includes: Airfare, hotel, 3 dives/day.
 Free brkfst & lunch. Call for group rates. Bimini Bimini.

BILL & NOWDLA KEEFE'S BIMINI 1-800-348-4644
 UNDERSEA ADVENTURES Dive the best of the BAHAMAS,
 w/Bill & Nowdla Keefe. Reefs, Wrecks & Walls. Superb Diving!
 Great Pkgs! PO Box 21623 Ft. Laud FL 33335 Fax 809-347-3079

BRENDALS DIVE SHOP INTL. LTD. 800-780-9941 809/365-4411
 Green Turtle Cay, Abaco, Bahamas new custom dive boat, cert,
 instr, dive unspoiled Barrier Reef Wreck, catacombs, caverns.
 Dive hotel pkgs. start \$320 individual or groups specials

DIVERS DOWN, ABACO 800-327-1584
 Treasure Cay, Bahamas. Barrier Reef, Wreck, Catacombs.
 All levels instruction, rentals, magnificent 3.5 mile beach.
 Packages. Fax 305-525-1699

DIVERS HAVEN PH (809)-393-0869
 P.O. Box N-1658, Nassau, Bahamas, PADI 5 Star Facility
 Private Instruction & Referrals. Daily Tours.
 Hotel & Cruise Ship Shuttle, Fax (809)-393-3695

GULFSTREAM DIVERS 1-305-944-2992
 MIAMI Liveaboard Dive Boat Groups Only up to 10 wk
 trips Miami-Bimini-Freepoint-Nassau wrecks-reefs-wall dives
 Capt. Joe 970 N.E 144 St., North Miami, FL 33161

SMALL HOPE BAY LODGE, ANDROS ISLAND BAHAMAS
 809-368-2014; US/CAN 800-223-6961. 35 years diving
 walls and blue holes of Andros. One-on-one specialty diving.
 Free Resort Course. Families welcome. All-inclusive rates.

UNEXSO FREEPORT GRAND BAHAMA ISL 800-992-DIVE
 305 351-9889 30 yrs. adventure! 809 373-1244 groups/pkgs.
 Famous shark, dolphin, wreck & reef dives. Instruction/18'
 deep tank, photo/video, groups welcome. In Port Lucaya.

VALENTINE'S DIVE CENTER (800) 383-6480
 Box 1, Harbour Is., Bahamas (502) 897-6481; (809) 333-2309
 2 tank AM & PM, dives, night, reef, wreck, cavern, cave,
 drift. All levels instr., rentals, disc, group & individual pkg.

BARBADOS

EXPLORESUB BARBADOS 809/435-6542
 PADI 5 Star Facility dive svc. Certification.
 Specialties, Medic First Aid. St. Lawrence, Christ Church,
 Barbados, W.I. FAX: 809/428-4674

UNDERWATER BARBADOS 809-426-0655
 Carlisle Bay Centre, Bay St., St. Michael, Barbados
 PADI 5 Star Facility Certs - Referral - Specialties.
 1-800-843-8362

BELIZE

AMIGOS DEL MAR 011-501-26-2706
 P.O. Box 53, San Pedro Town, Ambergris Caye, Belize
 Professional service, night & atoll dives, rentals
 PADI instruction FAX 011 501-26-2648

BELIZE YACHT CLUB 1-800-938-0860
 Stay at the exclusive Belize Yacht Club. Full service
 dive operation. Blue Hole trips. 1, 2, 3, day trips
 Fax 011501 262892

BELIZE YACHT CLUB 1-800-735-9520
 Best of Belize and Beyond ... New Year's in Belize Dec. 29 -
 7 NT Deluxe Dive Pkg / RT Air / Elegant suites w/ pool 11
 Dives w/ Night Dive/ Farewell Lobster Barbecue- \$1550 pp.
BELIZE TRADEWINDS DIVE PACKAGE 800-451-7776
 PARADISE VILLAS condominiums on Ambergris Caye.
 1 & 2 Bedroom units on the ocean. Fantastic Diving!
 Discount Air available. Call for brochures

CORAL BEACH HOTEL 800-247-3483
 Experience the very best dollar value on FAX 206-441-5431
 Ambergris Caye. \$590 weekly includes 206-441-3483
 accommodation, meals, diving, taxes. Discounted airfares.

COTTAGE COLONY 5012212020 & 1-800-468-0123 US/CANADA
 A new concept in diving on St. Georges Caye 1/2 mi. from
 Barrier Reef. Colonial style cottages, 1st class dining & bar.
 Resort refresh. and open water certifications, inland excursions

DANGRIGA DIVE CENTRE 1-800-673-8813
 Year-round diving and fabulous Inland Adventure Tours.
 Also ideal for non-divers call Global Travel Club (USA)
 Tel: 409-925-1388 Fax 713-882-7942 UK Tel: 1 268-541732

GAZ & DAVES BELIZE DIVE CENTER 1-800-938-0860
 Book direct and save on hotels, diving, jungle tours.
 We live in Belize. 7 day packages start
 as low as \$399 dbl. occ. 1-800-938-0860

LIGHTHOUSE REEF RESORT 1-800-423-3114
 A full service beachfront resort located a few miles from the
 Blue Hole on a private island. 3 boat dives per day, including
 night dives. Air-conditioned cabanas and airstrip.

MANTA RESORT—GLOVERS ATOLL 1-800-342-0053
 12 acre private island resort on southern most atoll.
 Virgin wall diving. Fantastic food. White sand- warm sea.
 Call 1-800-342-0053 or 941-594-8022 In Belize 011-501-62-3226

M/V HOT DIVE 1-800-HOT DIVE
 Fast & Personable Live-aboard..!! 60 Ft of Elegance..!!
 Turneffe - Lighthouse - Blue Hole - Glovers & Rio Dulce,
 Guatemala. 4 - 6 Persons. Fax/phone: 011-501-234-058

PLACENCIA DIVE SHOP, KITTY'S PLACE - Placencia, Belize
 Enjoy a wilderness of cays, reef, and natural sandy beaches.
 Full resort, apartments, fishing, diving, jungle trips. Scuba
 Instruction. Call 011-501-62-3227. Fax 011-501-62-3226

RAMADA ROYAL REEF RESORT & MARINA 011-501-2-32670
 Deluxe accommodations. Snorkeling,
 fishing and diving available.
 Packages also available. Fax 011-501-2-34322

ST. GEORGE'S LODGE, FRED GOOD, PROP. 800-678-6871
 For the few who seek the finest. "Just perfect." Under-
 current 1991. Basic thru Nitrox cert. ScubaPro rentals.
 Arrive/depart ANY day. Inland trips. 011-501-244190

VICTORIA HOUSE—BELIZE 1-800-633-4734

Finest resort on Ambergris Caye PADI, NAUI, Resort certs. Combine a dive pkg. w/inland archaeology and nature expeditions. Call International Expeditions World Leader in Travel to Belize.

BERMUDA

FANTASEA DIVING PH: 809-236-6339 FAX 809-236-8926
Darrell's Wharf Paget PG01 Centrally located PADI 5 STAR Dive Center. Wreck/reef dives, 1&2 tank. Private charters. Full retail & service dept. PADI certification & referral.

BONAIRE

BLACK DURGON INN/BONAIRE SCUBA CTR 800-526-2370
P.O. Box 775, Morgan, NJ 08879 U.S.A Fax 908-583-0478

Truly a unique priv. dive resort/apartments. NJ-908-566-8866 Excel. div/snork from the property. The reef is our back yard.

BRUCE BOWKER'S CARIB INN 011-599-7-8819 8am-5 pm
PO Box 68, Bonaire, Neth Antilles (FAX) 011-599-7-5295

24 Hr. All sites, Air, Sales, Rentals, PADI 5 star full inst. All rooms A/C, TV, Pool, E mail 75317, 667@Compuserve. Com.

HAPPY HOLIDAY HOMES 011-5997-8405 Fx 011-5997-8605
P.O. Box 216, affordable-clean-quiet 1-2 br. bung a/c cable TV,

well equip. kitchn, hot shower, garden dive pkgs & car rental avail year-round charters 54' dlx motoryacht to other islands.

SAND DOLLAR CONDOMINIUM RESORT 1-800-288-4773
Sand Dollar Dive & Photo complete photo facility.

Oceanfront Condos—your home away from home. Come and enjoy Bonaire's most unique diver friendly resort.

TOUCH THE SEA WITH DEE SCARR 011-599-7-8529

c/o Touch the Sea, P.O. Box 369, Bonaire, N. A. Unique diving experiences: marine creatures, photos, much more. Reservations recommended. (Closed July thru October).

BORNEO**ADVENTURE DIVING WITH BORNEO DIVERS**

Dive fantastic Sipadan Island. Beach hut accom. Grp spec./indiv. pkgs from \$2375 p/p incl air from W. Coast/accom./diving. 12 day pkg. FAX: 415/442-0289 or call 800 443-0799.

ADVENTURE IN BORNEO AND BEYOND... 800-346-6116

Diving Sipadan Island and Malaysia since 1989.

Call Ken or Jolene for the real story.

ISLAND DREAMS Fax (713) 973-8585

BORNEO DIVERS 800-247-3483

Nobody knows Borneo better. fax 206-441-5431

Contact our US rep for complete 206-441-3483

air/land/dive packages.

Journey World Travel SDN BHD KKKP1989 FAX 6088-233562

Dive & stay at Sipadan daily 3 boat dives, unltld wall dive.

Open 365 opt: Eco/Adv. Tour Borneo P.O. Box 12248 88825

Kota Kinabalu Sabah Malaysia Tel. 6088-223918

PULAU SIPADAN RESORT on Sipadan Island. 6089-765200

Fax: 6089763575. P.O. Box 61120, 91021 Tawau Sabah,

Malaysia world renowned wall dives just front resort. Daily 3

boat dives/unltld. wall dives. Sundek looking sunset. Open 365

SIPADAN BORNEO DIVERS 800 886-7321

PADI 5 star diving specialist

offering exceptional diving!!

Dive Discovery CA ph 415/256-8890 fax 415/258-9115

BRAZIL

PROJETO MAR Ph/Fx 081.326.0162 Rua Padre Bern. Pessoa,

410 B, Viagem Recife PE, Brasil CEP 51.020.210. Dives, svcs,

video, photo, course CMAS. Dive 12 famous wrecks.

Scubapro, U.S. Divers, Sherwood, Cressi-Sub - training fac

BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS**BLUE WATER DIVERS 809/494-2847**

P.O. Box 846, Road Town, Tortola, B.V.I.

Mike & Keith Royle—PADI Instructors. Dive tours, Intro

courses, Rentals, Air fills, Rendezvous. FAX-809-494-0198

CAYMAN ISLANDS

CAYMAN BRAC GETAWAY 970-226-5489

Fully furnished fully equipped private homes for rent.

\$65 to \$200/day dive, air, car pkg avail. Call for Info.

We dive with the best; Brac Aquatics. References avail.

CAYMAN BRAC BEACHFRONT HIDEAWAY

Spectacular wall & shore dives out the front door. 2 BDRM

2 BA private road quiet peaceful piece of paradise.

Details and information Fax 415-861-5228

DIVE CAYMAN BRAC & LITTLE CAYMAN! 1-800-972-9795

Dlx beachfront vac. homes/condo rentals \$88-\$178 day.

1-5 br, fully equipped. Disc. dive, air, car pkgs. Best diving

in Caribbean! Call Jim, Brac vacation specialist since 1987.

OCEAN FRONTIERS 809-947-7500

Experience Grand Cayman's East End. Virgin Diving,

Uncrowded, Fast Dive Cat, Custom Packages.

Friendly Professional Staff, Free Courtesy Shuttle.

SAM MCCOY'S DIVE LODGE LTD. 1-800-626-0496

Little Cayman, B.W.I. Dive the famous

Bloody Bay Wall! Genuine Caymanian hospitality.

Call now for information. Fax 809-949-6821

PIRATES POINT RESORT, LTD. PH 809 948-1010

Little Cayman, B.W.I. Best Wall Diving in the Caribbean.

Gourmet dining. All inclusive package.

Direct booking. FAX 809 948-1011

THE REEFS SEASIDE COTTAGES 516-261-0600 809-949-4046

Direct ocean diving from pvt. dock located on prop to

popular reefs-dive boats close snorkel to great spots.

Reasonable efficiency cottages call for availability.

BOB SOTO'S DIVING 1-800-262-7686

Winter air-land-dive packages at summer prices. Direct to

consumer savings on Cayman winter diving. Computer

friendly to north, west & south walls. Ask for Tommy.

CHINA

DIVING IN HAINAN—SOUTH SEA INT'L OCEAN CLUB

PADI facility, Scubapro equip, shore dives, boat dives, wreck dives all

avail. here. We can handle your travel arrangement as well. Call our

agent in Hong Kong. Tel: 852-28542722. Fax: 852-28156168

COSTA RICA

ADVENTURES COSTA RICA 1-800-231-RICA

Aguila De Osa in Drake Bay diving packages combined with

rafting, sea kayaking, fishing, jungle tours. Other world wide

destinations. Discounts for groups.

BILL BEARDS DIVING SAFARIS 800-247-3483

Beautiful La Costa Resort and Fax 206-441-5431

Costa Rica's #1 dive operator. 206-441-3483

Complete air/land/dive packages.

EL OCOTAL/DIVING SAFARIS U.S./CANADA 800-525-3833

Costa Rica's finest dive resort, featuring big marine animals

and bigger price savings. Experience "DIVING SAFARIS"

where friendly people make the difference. CA 510-794-1599

EL OCOTAL/DIVING SAFARIS 1-800-328-5285

Costa Rica's leading dive operation, Pacific Coast PADI

Resort, prolific pelagics year-round FX506-670-0083

SJO-2820, PO Box 025216 Miami FL 33102-5216

RAINFOREST & SEA SOUTHERN PACIFIC Ph/Fx 011-506-7712436

Warm water diving uncrowded, pristine with much sea life.

Also guided rainforest tours, canoes & sea kayaking. Amer/

operated w/exc/accommodations ph 011-506-284-4107

TROPIC WORLD DIVING STATION 506 661 2039 Fx 506-661-2069

P.O. Box 1504-4050 Alajuela Costa Rica. PADI courses.

Daily schedule of 1 & 2 tanks dive, night diving. Tambor

Beach Resort 5★ all inclusive pkgs. avail.

CURACAO

LIONS DIVE HOTEL & UNDERWATER CURACAO

P.O. Box 4095, Tel: 599-9-618131; Fax: 599-9-657826

Full service dive center, entrance nat'l underwater park, 38',

40' dive boats. Dive pkgs/group rates avail. Direct booking.

Princess Divers/Princess Beach 800/9dancer or 800/3273286

Princess Divers, on the grounds of Princess Beach Resort

& Casino, a Crowne Plaza Resort is a PADI 5-Star Peter

Hughes Facility. Dive pck. & instruction, video, photo & more

DOMINICA

EAST CARIB DIVE/LAURO CLUB US/CANADA 800-867-4764

Full service Dive/Watersports Center on Salisbury Beach,

PADI & CMAS instructors cater to your needs. Pkgs, local &

long range dives, specialty trng. Villa accoms, pool, rest.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

PUNTA CANA DIVE CENTER Ph 809-221-2262 Fx 809-686-0165

Full service PADI dive center with multi-lingual staff,

located in beautiful Punta Cana Beach Resort.

"Barrier" reef is only 5 min. away all inclusive avail.

SAMANA DIVING, "El Portillo Beach Resort." Best diving of the

island 4 days 3 nights pkg from U.S. \$487.00 p/p all inclusive

ask for brochure and information Tel: (809) 240-6100. Prieto

Tours EPS A-204 7801 N.W. 37th. St. Miami, FL 33166-6559

TREASURE DIVERS FAX/TEL 1-809-523-4819/5320

North: Sand Castle B. R., Sosua—Wreck Walls

West: Rivera Beach R., Batahona—Sharks, Rays

South: Don Juan B. R., Boca Chica—Caves, Wrecks

FIJI ISLANDS

BEQA DIVERS FIJI 011-679-361-088

Bega Lagoon offers 5-Star Diving. Bega Divers' 25 years exper.

guarantees you'll see the best sites. Fiji's 1st and most exper.

oper. GPO Box 777, Suva, FIJI. FAX-011-679-361-047

CRYSTAL DIVERS/LOMALOMA RESORT 800-554-2SEA

Discover the unexplored reefs of the Northern Lau Group.

Personalized diving, private island resort - 7 oceanfront

Bures, int'l cuisine. Indiv/grp pkgs. Ph/fax 415-566-6672

DIVE KADAVU MATANA RESORT FIJI BEST FOR LESS

Virgin Reefs—4 dives per day

Bure accommodation—E-6 Lab

Ph. 011-679-311780 Fax 011-679-303860

DIVE TAVEUNI RESORT 800-247-3483

World-class topside and underwater. Fax 206-441-5431

Dive world renowned Somosomo 206-441-3483

Straits. Complete air/land/dive packages.

FIJI - WORLD CLASS LIVE-ABOARD DIVING 1-800-541-4334

Explore the outer wall of the Astrolabe Reef with Aqua-Treks

Exclusive rights to this pristine area. Includes Kadavu's

Yellow Wall and Bega Lagoon. World Class

ECO DIVERS SAVUSAVU 800-599-5507

Indiv/grp. packages from \$345 to \$599 p/p for 7 nts, b/fast

10 tanks. MKV Rigid Zodiacs; Eco/cultural tours. Affordable

excellence - Believe it! Fax Fiji 011 (679) 850-344.

MALAWAI, KADAVU 011-679-520102

An ideal dive vacation. Unspoiled, unpopulated,

unusually perfect. Video available. P.O. Box 1277,

Suva, Fiji Islands Fax 011-679-361536

MARLIN BAY RESORT U.S./Canada 800-525-3833

Luxury styled resort on BEQA LAGOON. Excel. accom.,

grt. food, friendly staff, and legendary Fiji diving. Complete

indiv/grp pkgs. LANDFALL ADV. TRVL. CA. 510-794-1599

MOODY'S NAMENA US/CAN. 800-348-3436 FAX 916-783-1952

Dive/Snorkel Renown Namena Barrier Reef, minutes away

from Island comfort. 10 Guests beautiful beaches. Special

pkgs May-Aug. Stay 6 nights/7th night FREE!

NAMENA DIVE RESORT 800-443-0799

Dive the BEST resort based diving in Fiji. 5 luxurious bures on 100 acre island. \$227 p/p p/dive day. Complete pkgs, air fares, boats, plus. CALL THE EXPERTS. Fax 415/442-0289

VATULELE ISLAND RESORT (800) 828-9146

15 luxury beachfront villas. Enjoy gourmet cuisine and pristine diving conditions. Only five star resort with PADI facility/instruction. Member Relais & Chateaux. FAX (310) 338-0708

GALAPAGOS

ANGERMEYER'S ENCHANTED EXPEDITIONS U.S.: 800 270-6378
18 years of yacht cruise experience presenting the marine & terrestrial environments of the Galapagos. Expert guides. Judy Falco: Fax 303 786-8448, 75262.2171@compuserve.com

AQUATIC ENCOUNTERS - LIVE-ABOARD, REINA SILVIA

Hammerheads, dolphins, whale sharks from the ultimate dive boat. We dive Darwin & Wolf Islands every time!! Free video available. ph/303-494-8384 fax/303-494-1202

GALAPAGOS—You, 9 other divers and our licensed naturalist will live aboard yacht to explore more islands than any other Galapagos expedition. FREE BROCHURE (510) 420-1550 Inca Floats, Inc. 1311D 63rd St., Emeryville, CA 94608

GALAPAGOS' FINEST "MISTRAL" 800-247-2925

Best itin. from 8 to 21 days. Expert guiding, safety, exper., personalized svc. For charters or individuals land extensions available. Quasar Nautica/Tumbaco Fax (305) 592-7060

LAMMER LAW—95 ft. Trimarine US/CANADA 800-525-3833

Experience unique u/w and topside wildlife encounters aboard this elegant diver dedicated live-aboard.

LANDFALL ADVENTURE TRAVEL CA. 510-794-1599.

GREECE**CALYPSO DIVING CENTRE, AGIOS GORDIS BEACH 661/53101**

Marasli Street 24 Corfu, Greece. Ideal for families, FAX 661/53369 singles or lrg parties. Half board accom. FAX 661/34319 Excellent diving for novices & expert. PADI divg school

GRENADA**DIVE GRENADA 800-843-8362 809-444-1092**

The best dive shop in Grenada (on a small part of Grand Anse) THE experts on the Bianca C:PADI courses, unspoiled reefs. Packages to suit every pocket Fax 809-440-6699

HAWAII**ALOHA DIVE SHOP—KOKO MARINA 808/395-5922**

Koko Marina Shpg. Ctr., Honolulu, HI 96825 808/395-8882 "Diving is fun" with Jackie and her friends.

Scuba resort cert., boats, tours, sales, rental, all cert.

BILLS SCUBA SHACK 1-800-950-DIVE

36 Keala Place, Kihei, Maui HI 96753 1-808-879-DIVE We have it all—We do it all! PADI Instruction.

Rentals, retail, boats.

DAN'S DIVE SHOP-PADI 5 STAR 1-800-527-6377

660 Ala Moana Blvd. Honolulu, HI. 96813 1-808-536-6181 Dive "Y0257" Wreck, Rainbow Reef, etc. Call for free info. Retail, Rental, Air & Repair. Best Service & Best Prices.

DIVE MAKAI CHARTERS 808/329-2025

P.O. Box 2955, Kailua-Kona, HI 96745. Private PADI Instruction. Diving with a difference—we care! Write to Tom & Lisa. Rated Kona's best every year since '76 by Undercurrent.

DIVE MAUI PH 808-667-2080

900 Front St., Lahaina HI 96761. Outer island tours. Walls, caverns, sea turtles, pinnacles, lava arches, reefs! PADI, NAUI, SSI, NASDS, EANX training. Great dives great prices!

ED ROBINSON'S DIVING ADVENTURES 1-800-635-1273

P.O. Box 616, Kihei, Maui, HI 96753 808-879-3584

"Dive w/ERDA and experience the best Maui has to offer".

SkinDiver 1/95. Call for a FREE comprehensive info. pkg.

ECO - ADVENTURES 800-949-DIVE/FAX 329-7091

Dive the Volcano Island. 2-tank charters w/lunch, manta, blue-water & long range dives; Instruction, PADI 5★ IDC, air/room/car pkgs. All Islands. "No worry atmosphere."

HAWAIIAN DIVERS 1-808-329-5662 1-800-525-PADI/329-KONA

75-5660 Palani RD Suite PI King Kamehameha Hotel Kailua-Kona Hawaii 96740 PADI/SSI instruction.

Manta Night Dives/Shark Dives HI-tech Nitrox, Drift Dives

JACK'S DIVING LOCKER 1-800-345-4807/1-808-329-7585

75-5819 Alii Dr. Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96740 "Our friendly people make the difference." Daily boat dives. Full retail & rentals, video & still photo. Non-Scary Dives! NAUI/PADI★★★★

KONA COAST DIVERS 800/KOA-DIVE FAX 808-329-5741/329-8802

Daily boat dives. Manta nite dives 3 times weekly.

Full retail, rental, schooling. Call about condo pkgs.

Or E-mail divekoa@ihawaii.net

LAHAINA DIVERS, INC. 1-800-998-DIVE

New Location! 143 Dickenson Street, Lahaina, Maui. Dive Maui, Molokini & Lanai aboard 43' Reliant or 50' Endeavor. PADI 5 Star, NAUI & SSI OW Comp. Packages from \$242.25

MANTA RAY DIVES OF HAWAII, INC 1-800-988MANTA

24 hr. resv. Scuba tours, certification, equipment rentals, sportfishing charters, snorkel tours. Come stay with us at the Kona Surf Resort & Country Club on 550 acres of Kona.

MAUI DIVE SHOP—Kihei, Lahaina, Kahului (800) 542-3483

P.O. Box 1018, Kihei, Maui, HI 96753, FAX 808/871-5149 Maui's Largest divg retailer, 9 isl locations, Dly Boat charters, scuba lessons, rentals, PADI 5 Star Facility.

MIKE SEVERNS DIVING (808) 879-6596

P.O. BOX 627, Kihei, Maui, HI 96753 Relaxed, personal, informative diving for experience divers and photographers. Guided by Hawaii Biologist. Max 6 divers.

SANDWICH ISLE DIVERS 808/329-9188 Fx-808/326-5652

75-57291 Alii Dr., Kailua-Kona, HI 96740 PADI/NAUI sml. dly. boat charters, 6 divers max, full retail shop, 19 yrs. Kona exp., marine biologist, classes, night dives, rentals & repairs.

SOUTH SEAS AQUATICS PADI-5 STAR 808-735-0437

870 Kapahulu Ave. #109, Honolulu, HI 96816 Fax 808-735-8780 Dive the "MAHI" shipwreck, Makaha caverns and more. Serving Oahu since 1962, wreck and cavern diving specialists.

WAIKIKI DIVING CENTER 808/955-5151 Fax 808/955-6766

1734 Kalakaua Ave. Hon. HI 96826

PADI 5 STAR & NAUI Certification courses 3 days.

Daily Boat Dives, rentals, sales, service, best prices!

HONDURAS BAY ISLANDS**ANTHONY'S KEY RESORT 800-735-9520**

Best of Belize and Beyond ... Specialty Groups

Dec. 9- Singles / Jan 6- Families / Jan 27- Couples.

* \$1250 pp w/ AIR on TACA * Copan Mayan Ruins?

CASA DE LA PLAYA SANDY BAY ROATAN.

Private houses by the sea. 2 bed. Maid/mdrn fac. Dis. dive pkgs.

Scuba/snork in Marine Reserve. 4/750 wk. Brochure. U.S.

800-335-4806 Roatan tel/fax 414 582-4806. Dorothy Reid, prop.

CASA SOBRE EL MAR (HOME OVER THE SEA) GUANAJA

Small resort, over a coral reef, 85 ft. deep off dock. Lrg guestrms each w/bath & hot water. \$595 p/p for 7 dy & 7 nt. Incl. all meals, boat, guide, tanks & air. 22 yrs in business. 800-869-7295

NAUTILUS DIVE RESORT/GUANAJA 800-535-7063

World class diving in a beautiful private plantation resort. 6 rooms/6 baths, some with AC, full service, custom dive boat full dive shop. Specialty dive training. Fishing & hiking avail.

OFF THE WALL DIVERS & ECOSPORTS ROATAN 800-382-7776

Unstructured diving adventures since 1978. Fast Boats, Small Groups, Superb Walls. Instruction, Referrals, Rentals. Sail, Kayak, Waterski, Trailbike pkgs. w/wo Food & Airfare.

PLANTATION BEACH RESORT 011-504-42-0974 tel/fax

Cayos Cochinos only resort in marine park, max 20 divers, 3 boat dives, unlt. shore dives, macro wrecks, walls, mounts. The best food in the Bay Isls. Write APDO 114 La Ceiba

REEF HOWEY RESORT ROATAN FX 210-341-7942 800-328-8897

Secluded, intimate. Southern dive & bone fishing sites.

Meals, 2 boat & shore diving daily, 1 nt. dv p/week \$700

MAYAN RUINS, adventure & sightseeing tours on Mainland.

ROATAN CHARTER INC.—VACATION PROPERTIES

P.O. Box 877, San Antonio, FL. 33576 800/282-8932.

Coco View Resort, Utila Lodge. Diving and Fishing available. Beach House rentals, Mayan ruins and more.

SEAGRAPE PLTN/ROATAN RESORTS 800-392-6292

Oceanfront bungalows facing the Caribbean sunset.

Full week boat, shore, night dives & meals \$599.

Low air and tours too.

INDONESIA**NUSANTARA DIVING CENTRE, N. SULAWESI, MANADO, P.O.**

Box 1015. ph. 62-431-63988 & 60638. Fx. 62-431-60368 & 54668. Untouched marine park. Great Wall, wreck & nite dive, custom dive tours & courses, 18 yrs. exp. Good accom & food.

WESTERN SUMATRA *PADANG NEW FOR M/V FANTASEA

Unspoiled, unvisited, very accessible! Virgin diving in the Indian Ocean! Be the 1st, call for details! July departures 9d/10nt 1990.00 pp 800/886-7321 fax 415/258-9115

JAMAICA**DIVE SEAWORLD 809/953-2180; FAX# 809/953-2550**

Mo. Bay's most complete scuba facility. Located at Caribblue Beach Hotel. Dive pkg. \$199 pp/dbl occ. PADI/PDIC courses avail., free bus shuttle from all hotels in Mo. Bay. Group rates avail.

GARFIELD DIVING STATION CO LTD. 809-995-3366

P.O. Box 394 Ocha Rios - Jamaica's No. 1 dive all incl.

Unltd dives airfare from Miami. Accom food & beverage.

Airport P/U & drop-off Fax 809-974-5749

JAMAQUA DIVE CENTRE Tel: 809-973-4845/Fax 4875

P.O. Box 65, Runaway-Bay, PADI 5 Star. Beginner Lessons, cert, camera, E-6 processing, video, 3 dives dly. Night dives, 4 Qual. PADI instrs guides. Hotel dive pkgs.

NEGRIL SCUBA CENTRE PH/Fax 809 957-4425

P.O. Box #49, Negril Jamaica. PADI Dive Shop. Beg. lessons dive pkg cert. Video camera rental, night dive specialists 3 dives daily with qualified instructors and guides. 800 818-2963

JAPAN**H2O INTERNATIONAL DIVE COLLEGE & RESORT 8155-827-1868**

Japan's finest dive resort & training facility. Oceanfront villa/42' custom dive boat. Training & worldwide placement of Japanese instructors. USA owned & operated.

MAXDIVE, JAPAN 8152-211-1772 FAX 8152-201-3940

2-18-34, Nishiki, Naka-Ku, Nagoya, 460, Japan

30 years of safety and quality diving

Instructions in big training pool. Sales, tours with care.

MALDIVES**ADVENTURE MALDIVES LIVE-ABOARD "KOI MALA" 800 443-0799**

Affordable and HIGH VOLTAGE diving in comfort on 80' KOI MAL 6 dbl cabins w/head. 13 nt package incl air from LA \$3895 or boat only \$2250 (9nts) BEST DIVING IN MALDIVES Fax 415 442-0289

#1 MALDIVE LIVE-ABOARD 800-247-3483

80 ft. MANTHIRI ... Don't settle for less. Fax 206-441-5431 Pvt cabins with bath. Full A/C. Fantastic! 206-441-3483 \$250/night. Discounted airfares.

MEXICO**AKUMAL, YUCATAN, MEXICO 800-448-7137**

Caribbean dive packages in small resort near Cancun and Cozumel. Beachfront condo and reef dives. Cave diving also available. Call Akumal Vacations for brochure.

BAJA EXPEDITIONS-SEA OF CORTEZ 800-843-6967

FAX:619-581-6542 LA PAZ and Socorro Island live-aboard trips LA PAZ Hotel packages with 3 dives each day. Free Brochure, 2625 Garnet Ave., San Diego, Ca 92109

COZUMEL BEACHFRONT HOME/DIVE PACKAGES

Flexible fast trips with pickup at your vacation home. Multi dive discounts. 1-10 Br Homes. Individual Attention.
800/833-5971 BLUE BUBBLE DIVER FAX/ 212/979-2993
CABO ACUADEPORTES 1-800-572-CABO
CABO SAN LUCAS. BAJA's premier dive and water sports operator with 2 facilities. Complete travel pkgs, Best hotels, Whales and Pelagics. WHOLESALE CABO

CABO SAN LUCAS VILLAS, CONDOS, DIVE PACKAGES

Dive Socorro Island, Gorda Banks, Cabo Pulmo & More!!
Full Service Dive Facilities, Live-Aboard Charters.
1-800-745-2226 Free Brochures Land/Dive/Air Pkgs.

CLUB COZUMEL CARIBE ALL-INCLUSIVE BEACHFRONT RESORT

All Meals & Drinks-Kids Klub-Gym-Snorkeling-Watersports-Sunset Cruises-Disco-Ntly entertainment! Fr: \$109 pn/pp/do Xtras: 2 tank dives \$29! Live-aboard Dive Adventure!! 800-327-2254

DIVE PARADISE-COZUMEL THE BEST THERE IS!

The best in personalized service. For a (800) 308-5125 wealth of free info/reservations call or Fax 206-441-5431 write 111-2nd North, Seattle, WA 98109. 011-52-987-21007

COZUMEL - VACATION HOMES -DIVE W/FELIPE QUINONES

Dive boat pickup at your private villa on the beach. Custom diving, food/cook pkgs, cars, 1-11 Bdrm Villas
800-484-9014 Ext. 7070 Fax 918-742-3353

DIVING ADVENTURES/COZUMEL 800-243-7480

Specializing in Personal Service, Fast Boats and Small Groups w/safety. All Boats well equipped, Multi Dive discounts. All Levels of Scuba Instr. Home & Condos available.

COZUMEL VILLAS/DIVE PALANCAR 1-800-251-9649

Absolutely charming 1-3 bedroom town & beach villas. Pool, maid, from \$300/week
Dive trips with Dive Palancar available.

ENSENADA PACIFIC DIVES, CASA & HOTELS Sandy &

shore dive Labufador Dive. Family special & vacations. Large group accommodations. Drive to vacations. Call for info. Luke 714-772-5964 (110 miles from USA)

FANTASIA DIVERS COZUMEL, CANCUN, LORETO 1-800-336-3483

Mexico's only network of full-service diving facilities. Brochures, information, dive, hotel and air reservations: 713-558-9524 fax:713-558-9587

COZUMEL/GALAPAGO INN 800-847-5708

First Dedicated Dive Resort. USA/CANADA
Beach front location & 7 Top Class boats.
Dive packages for individuals & groups.

COZUMEL - GRAND CLUB SOL CARIBE 1-800-504-0552

Unlimited diving, hotel, food & beverage. \$139/person/mo. For one year, unlimited # of stays. Children & guests free. Membership is for 2 adults. Fax 713-978-6364

COZUMEL/LA PERLA TOLL FREE 1-800-852-6404

Beach Front Dive Resort Fax 011-52(987)20819
Air Condition. Dbl. Room priv. beach Swimming pool & pier
A terrific snorkeling off of your door; 6 pass. fast boat

PACIFIC COAST ADVENTURES 800-491-3483

Baja's best dive operator serves Cabo, Lapaz, Loreto, Guaymas Air, land, and dive pkgs. for less.
We know Baja best. Group inquiries welcome.

PLAZA LIZZETTE/COZUMEL CALL/FAX 1-800-588-4827

Condos & homes from \$350/wk, 1-3 bdrms, new, ocean view, English speaking mgr walk to bch/shop/restaurants. Dive & jeep rental pkgs. Washington, DC area call/fax 301-588-4829

PUERTO AVENTURAS PH 904-941-2220

\$Million Dollar Villa with private pool, oceanfront view, sleeps 10 and 55' motor yacht. Dive packages available for clubs, groups and shops. Fax 904-944-9235

SEA OF CORTEZ / LA PAZ 800-999-BAJA

La Concha Beach Resort & Condominiums. Every room, suite & condo has an ocean view. Manta rays, whales, & whale sharks. Dive packages available. Free brochure.

SCUBA CANCUN (98) 831011 & 8842336 Eve. US 1-800-336-3483.

Oldest 5 Star PADI Dive Center in Cancun. CMAS, NASDS, NAUI. Tours, courses, referrals Ex comm Military dvr mgr 40+yrs dv exp. MexCanadian Box 517 Cancun Q Roo 77500.

MICRONESIA

CARP ISLAND RESORT PALAU 680-488-2978 Ph 680-488-3155 Fx

Natural paradise island surrounded by priv. beaches, ocean & neighboring Rock Islands. Close to Palau's premier dive sites. Pkgs avail.: Diving/Fishing/Land Tour Accommodations

FAMED FISH N' FINS 800-247-3483

Divers and the Palau Marina FAX 206-441-5431
Hotel. Micronesia's only true WA 206-441-3483
unlimited dive program. Complete air/land packages.

MANTA RAY BAY HOTEL & YAP DIVERS 800/886-7321

Rarely visited dive sites offering magical walls caverns & channels! Mantas, eagle rays, sharks, lionfish, cuttlefish & more! Intact culture! Spec. 5 nt pkgs.

MARSHALL ISLANDS-MARSHALL'S DIVE ADVENTURES

Adventure diving at its best. Spectacular wrecks. Endless reefs. Modern hotel or remote getaways. Land and air pkgs. avail.

CENTRAL PACIFIC DIVE EXPEDITIONS 1-800-U-GO-DIVE

YAP'S PATHWAYS HOTEL & BEYOND THE REEF CHARTERS

Enjoy private bungalows on lush tropical hillside. Max. 6 divers/boat. Mantas, sharks, turtles and more!
Great hotel/dive pkgs. PH: 691-350-3310; Fax 691-350-2066

DISCOVER PALAU! SAM'S DIVE TOURS & WEST PLAZA HOTELS

Personalized dive service w/affordable acc. Sams: 680-488-1062
Fax: 488-5003, Box 428, Koror, Palau, 96940 West: 680-488-2133/Fax: 488-2136, Box 280, Koror, Palau, 96940

SPLASH 1-800-247-3483

Palau's only PADI 5 Star dive center. Splash offers dive tours and Nikonos photo/video center conveniently located at the Palau Pacific Resort. Fax 011 (680) 488-1741

TRUK STOP HOTEL PH 691 330-4232 FAX 691 330-2286/330-4307

23 rooms, restaurant bar. This owner operated hotel is right on the water and less than one mile from the airport. Guests are within walking distance of dive facilities.

THE VILLAGE, Box 339, Pohnpei, FM 96941 Ecotourism award-winning resort hotel; rest. & bar; Scuba and tour svc, great diving. Thatched bungalows with modern interiors, fabulous food. Ph: 011 691-320-2797 Fax 011 691-320-3797.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

ADVENTURE DIVING AT WALINDI RESORT 800-443-0799

PNG's best land based diving. Combine fabulous reef diving w/ pelagics-ORCAS / sailfish / and more. AFFORDABLE PNG from \$210 p/p p/dive. Res/info FAX 415 442-0289

ADVENTURE DIVING ON 72' MV FEBRINA 800/443-0799

5, 7 or 11 night live-aboard dive trips from \$300 per person/ per day. Group or individual trips depart WALINDI. Unlimited diving with luxury accommodations. Fax 415 442 0289

AQUATICS ENCOUNTERS LIVEABOARD M/V FEBRINA

Escorted and non-escorted trips. Up to 6 dives daily. Call US for information packages including free video
PH/303 494-8384 or FAX 303-494-1202

PHILIPPINES

WHITETIP DIVERS PH (632) 521-2751 X 2162 FAX (632) 522-1165

Dive Boracay Island with Calypso Diving or anywhere in the Philippines. Other packages available. We do it all. WHITETIP, Joncor II Bldg 1362 A. Mabini, Ermita. MM PHil

PUERTO RICO

CARIBBEAN SCHOOL OF AQUATICS INC. 809-728-6606

Since 1963. Captain Greg Korwek NAUI instr. #166
Custom 40' dive boat - 51' sailing catamaran.
Mailing: Taft No.1 Suite 10F, San Juan, PR 00911

CARIBE AQUATIC ADVENTURES 809-724-1882 Fx 809-723-6770

Radisson Normandie Hotel, PO Box 2470, San Juan, 00902-2470.
Best little critter reef dvg & watersports, NAUI & PADI instr. Recipients NAUI Pro Facility Award. 21 yrs experience.

CORAL HEAD DIVERS, NAUI PRO FAC. 1 800/635-4529

Box 10246, Humacao, P.R. 00792 809/850-7208 Puerto Rico's SCUBA at its VERY BEST! DAILY BOAT DIVES.
Over 24 sites within 20 minutes from our dock.

TAMARINDO ESTATES Tel. 809-742-3343, Fax 809-742-3342

Beach Resort. A/C, TV, pool, restaurant, bar, excel. snorkelg. Dive pristine waters of CULEBRA IS. and stay in this cozy resort. Brochure avl., P.O. Box 313, Culebra, P.R. 00775

RED SEA

AQUANAUTE DIVING CENTER PADI 5 STAR IDC CENTER

All levels of PADI courses resort packages - live-aboards, photos & video courses Tel 011-20-62-600187
Sharm El Sheikh Sinai Egypt Fax 011-20-62-600619

AQUA SPORT EILAT SINAI EGYPT PH972733-4404/FX-3771

PADI 5★ Diving courses all levels 35 years in the Red Sea. Fast boat/liveboard/shore diving Sinai Diving Safaris 3 great locations Eilat, Taba Hilton Nuweiba Hilton

#1 CAMEL DIVE CLUB - SHARM EL SHEIKH, EGYPT

Live-aboards, Resort packages, Camel Safaris; Direct Tel: 011-20-62-600700; FAX 011-20-62-600601 US REP
800/821-6670 (Nationwide/Canada); 800-262-6670 (CA only)

M/Y CHRISTINA 110 ft. luxury live-aboard 1-800-890-8889

Super deluxe 20 divers capacity 10 double cabins each ensuite bathroom-fully A/C super charters rates EMB Sharm exceptional diving experience full dlx service call for brochure.

FANTASEA II - 115 FT LUXURY LIVE-ABOARD

Fantasea Cruises 2019 Westgate Ave. LA, CA 90025
(800) 390-DIVE Fax: (310) 571-7154 Dive away from crowds to outer Red Sea islands. 25th year of Red Sea operation.

FARINA TOURS — EGYPT, HURGHADA, SHARM EL SHEIKH

Live-aboard, daily trips & safari diving with or w/o tours of Egypt. All budgets. Various languages. Heliopolis, Cairo Fax 011-20-2-2567775; Tel 011-20-2-2560555 or 2569955.

GRAND BLEU 800-247-3483

Deluxe 80 foot live-aboard 12 diver FAX 206-441-5431
maximum. Weekly departures from 206-441-3483
Sharm el Sheikh. Land tours. Dis. airfares. Unbiased answers.

INT'L HOLIDAYS DIVING CENTER 800-890-8889

Sharm El Sheikh & Hurghada live-aboard largest fleet avail. Best rates for land based dive pkgs at all resorts on Red Sea-Air Hotels - s/s - cruise-ck us out first. Guaranteed svc.

RAERIS 198' SUPERIOR LIVE-ABOARD 800-854-9334

Fm Sharm El Sheikh, Dive Vessel Reputed Best by SDM. Whole Boat Charters or group booking with minimum of 8. Egypt Land Tours-Discount Airfares. FAX 714-644-5329

RED SEA SPORTS CLUB, EILAT ISRAEL Tel. 972-7376569

All levels of PADI Courses, shore diving wkly Sinai Dive Safari. Daily boat dive to Coral Island. Egypt live-aboard diving the "Poolster." Hotel & diving special offers. Fax 972-7-374083

#1 SINAI DIVE CLUB AT FAYROUZ HILTON HOTEL

Sharm el Sheikh, Egypt. The choice for U.S. dvs. 1st class svc. incl. PADI, NAUI, CMAS Trng. Land-based and live-aboard dive pkgs. 011/20-62-600138-140, Fax 62-601040, 1-800 443-0799

#1-A SINAI DIVERS 800-247-3483

Sharm el Sheikh. FAX 206-441-5431
Ghazala Hotel dive package \$699 206-441-3483
for 7 nights/6 dive days. Discounted airfares.

SABA

CAPTAIN'S QUARTERS HOTEL 800-328-2288/212-289-6031

Romantic Victorian Inn. Great Pinnacle, Wall, Reef Diving. Pkg. rates w/all dive shops incl. Full bkfst & box lunch.
SABA - "THE UNSPOILED QUEEN OF THE CARIBBEAN"

A DIVE SABA TRAVEL CO 1-800-883-SABA

713-789-1396 or Fax 713-953-7787

Only full service dive agency selling Saba exclusively. Packages and custom rates for all hotels and operators.

JULIANAS 800-328-5285 IN SABA 011-599-4-62269
10 guestrooms & Flossie's Cottage nestled into a garden setting overlooking the ocean. All rooms have balconies, pool and Tropics restaurant on site. Dive packages available.

SABA DEEP DIVE CENTER 011-599-46-3347

P.O. Box 22, Fort Bay, Saba, NA. FAX: 011-599-46-3397
Full service dive center, restaurant, boutique, training facility. NAUI and PADI. Learn to dive or how to dive better. Down deep, we care.

SEA SABA DIVE CENTER Ph:011-599-46-2246 FAX:599-46-2362;
Individuals or groups: our friendly, prof. dive instrs. show
you the best of the Saba Marine Park. Lrg 40' boats are
comfortable and uncrowded. Pkgs w/accom. 800-328-5285

SEYCHELLES

FANTASEA II - 115 FT LUXURY LIVE-ABOARD

Fantasea Cruises 2019 Westgate Ave. LA, CA 90025
Tel: (800) 390-DIVE Fax:(310) 571-7154. The world's most
luxurious live-aboard now in the incredible Seychelles.

SOLOMON ISLANDS

#1 LIVE-ABOARD BILIKIKI 800-247-3483
Dive the best of the Solomons in 120 feet of Fax 206-441-5431
comfort. Scheduled 7 - 14 day departures. 206-441-3483
Discounted airfare. Contact U.S. Reps direct.

DIVE GIZO FAX 415-442-0289
Dive 3 WWII fighter planes/intact 450' Japanese wreck, also
SUPERB coral & tropicals at Grand Central Station-from \$140
pp/pd BEST & most diverse Solomon Land based diving.

SOLOMON SEA DIVERS MUNDA 800-886-7321
Situating on the beautiful Roviana Lagoon. Majestic wall
dives and big fish action! Lots of sharks! Multiple day dives!
Skull Island! Dive Discovery. Fax 415 258-9115

ST. KITTS

KENNETH'S DIVE CENTRE 809 465-2670 1-800-843-8362
P.O. Box 826 Basseterre St. Kitts. Fax (809) 465-6472
Explore St. Kitts & dive its virgin reefs & shipwrecks. PADI
cert. 3 custom dive boats - Personal service our speciality

ST. LUCIA

ANSE CHASTANET HOTEL SCUBA ST. LUCIA 809/459-7000
P.O. Box 7000, Soufriere, PADI 5-Star, Fax 809 459-7700
Beach/Boat/Wall/Night Divg., Dive Pkgs, 800 328-5285
Accom., 2 Bars/Rest., Comp., Snork., Winds., Sailing, Tennis
LaSOURCE PH 800-549-3483 Fax 305-672-5861

Luxury all-inclusive beach resort with massages,
facials etc. PADI certificate \$350-over 25 sites, Bianca C,
night dives, all-included for certified divers.

LeSPORT PH 800-549-3483 FAX 305-672-5861
Dive vacation with a difference -FREE DIVING plus facial
massages, seaweed wraps, meals, drinks, taxes & gratuities.
PADI certificate \$350. Call for info & reservations.

RENDEZVOUS PH 800-549-3483 FAX 305-672-5861
Couples only all-inclusive beach resort - INTIMATE & ELEGANT.
Resort course & diving included, PADI certificate from \$350.
Call for info & reservations.

WYNDHAM MORGAN BAY RESORT/Dive Fair Helen 1-800-Wyndham
Choc Bay Box 2167 Gro S Islet St. Lucia 809-456-2511
All inclusive resort with wind surfing Kayaks waterskiing
sailing tennis & more. Dive packages from \$730

ST. MAARTEN

ALIZES TROPIQUE TEL 011-590-27-34-62
BP 474, 97055 St. Martin Cedex, FWI- Fax 011-590-87-55-95
Cruises & scuba diving from St. Martin to Virgin Islands on a
luxurious crewed catamaran. Certified instructors.

OCEAN EXPLORERS DIVE CENTER PH-FAX 011-599-5-45252
Simpson Bay Beach, St. Maarten, Netherlands Antilles
PADI & NAUI certifi & referrals. Daily boat dives & lessons.
Reefs & wrecks. 30 years exper. small groups. Retail store.

TRADEWINDS DIVE CENTER 011 599 5 75176
PADI & SSI Facility. 5 minutes Fax 011 599 5 23605
from cruise ships. Daily boat dives located on Great Bay
Marina dock. Behind Chesterfields Restaurant in Philipsburg

ST. VINCENT & THE GRENADINES

DIVE BEQUIA/PLANTATION HOUSE FAX 809-458-3886
Book direct with the travel experts who live there.
\$599/pers/week Apr 15-Dec. 15-1996 special for groups.
Contact Bob or Christina at 809-458-3504.

SUNSPORTS DIVE CENTER-BEQUIA U.S./CANADA 800-525-3833
Discover pristine reefs & uncrowded boats with Sunsports a
PADI full service dive center located on Bequia. Afford-
able pkgs avail. LANDFALL ADV TVL CA-510/794-1599

THAILAND

BURMA BANKS/SIMILAN ISL LIVE-ABOARD MV FANTASEA
98 ft. a/c, E6 proc/PADI 5 star center day trips courses
Fantasea Divers P.O. Box 20, Patong, Phuket 83150, Ph/Fax
6676-340309 USA Rep 800-443-0799/Fax 415-442-0289

DIVE MASTER CO., LTD. LIVE-ABOARD DIVE MASTER II
Unforgettable services, Unlimited drinks, Unsurpassed diving
110/63 Ladprao 18, Bangkok 10900 Fax 662-9384218

PADI/NAUI Courses. Trips to Andaman Sea/Gulf of Thailand
MV FANTASEA 800-247-3483
THAILAND'S BEST VALUE. FAX 206-441-5431
100 feet of live-aboard adventure 206-441-3483
Burma Banks and Similan Islands.

PDIC DIVERS (PHUKET) PH. 66-76-280644-5 FAX 66-76-381219
1/10 Viset Road (Chalong Bay) Phuket 83130. MV Andaman
Seafarer Live-aboard cruises of 5d/6n to Similan, Surin,
Richelieu Rock. PADI/NAUI Courses. Reg daily dive trips.

TOBAGO

MAN FRIDAY DIVING, Tobago, W.I. Ph/FAX 809 660-4676
World class diving. Small groups. 40+ virgin sites. PADI instr.
Man-O-War Bay Cottages, C.ville. Ph. 809 660-4327/4328
Fx. Off the tracks. Right on the beach in lush tropical nature.

TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS

DIVE PROVO Unspoiled Caribbean walls 800-234-7768
on Provo at Turquoise Reef Resort & Casino PADI 5-Star,
4 boats-fully equipped awesome walls, pelagics, corals +++
inst/photo, reef ID pkgs & groups 305-351-9771/809-946-5029

FLAMINGO DIVERS 1-800-204-9282 PH/FAX 809-946-4193
Fabulous secret of the Caribbean - West Caicos - French Cay
- N.W. Point. Small Groups - Fast Comfortable Boats
Friendly Experienced & Informative Staff.

ART PICKERING'S PROVO TURTLE DIVERS
The Turks & Caicos' premiere dive operation estab 1970.
Facilities at both the Turtle Cove Inn and Ocean Club.
PADI, NAUI/SSI. Call direct (809) 946-4232 Fax 941-5296.

PROVO AQUATICS ADVENTURES 800-967-3483
On Provo at Royal Bay Resort & Villas - New 4-Star Resort
305-489-7749/809-946-8000 x149 dive unspoiled walls!
Big time beauty-life-luxury inst., jet boat, PADI, grps & pkgs.

TURTLE INN DIVERS 1-(800) 359-3483 FAX (404) 565-0129
Enjoy the beautiful waters of Providenciales. Come dive or
snorkel on our 45' custom built Catamaran equipped with
four fresh water showers and marine head on board.

U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS

AQUA ACTION DIVE CENTER 809-775-6285
6501 Red Hook Plaza #15 St. Thomas VI 00802 PADI 5-Star;
NAUI DREAM RESORT all levels of instruction. Referrals.
Rentals. Intro dives. Boat dives. Small groups the norm

CHRIS SAWYER DIVING CENTER 1-800-882-2965
6300 Frydenhoj, St. Thomas, USVI 00802 Custom 42' dive
boat. Outstanding service to small groups of divers. PADI
Cert. Send for information package.

CRUZ BAY WATERSPORTS CO-ON ST. JOHN - 800-835-7730
NAUI/PADI 5 Star Facility 809 776-6234
Diving every day in US Nat'l park with 4 boats and 15 staff.
Accommodations from budget to Hyatt LUXURY Resort.

DIVE EXPERIENCE 809-773-3307 800-235-9047
P.O. Box 4254, Christiansted, St. Croix, USVI 00822
First PADI 5 Star IDC Center - Resort to Instructor training
Boat dives, walls, wrecks and world famous fish feed!!!

DIVE IN! at Sapphire Beach Resort & Marina 809/775-6100 X2144.
P.O. Box 5664, St. Thomas, USVI 00803 1-800-524-2090
PADI Dive Center located at deluxe beachfront resort
Custom dive boat. Friendly, professional staff.

DIVER DOWN PHOTO/VIDEO 800-895-5289
P.O. Box 303208 St. Thomas USVI 00803.
Sales, service, rentals, photo/video instruction.
E-6 film processing, video production. ph/fax 809-777-7868

LOW KEY WATERSPORTS SHOP-809/693-8999
P.O. Box 716 St. John USVI 00831 800/835-7718 PADI 5
Star IDC Center, certification, & referrals. Diving for
beginners thru experts. Small groups. Personal attention.

SEA TRADE LTD/SEA HORSE II 809/774-2001 Fx 809-777-9600
505 Crown Bay Marina, St. Thomas 00802 Reef/Wreck,
Day/Night, Full Gear Guided Tours, PADI Cert., Sales,
Service, Repairs, Air. E-mail: DIVE USVI@aol.com

ST. THOMAS DIVING CLUB 1-800-LETS DIV/538-7348
A PADI 5 Star IDC Center. Earn advanced ratings and
specialties. Daily boat dives. Full day trip to RMS Rhone.
7147 Bolongo Bay. St. Thomas USVI 00802

UNDERWATER SAFARIS (809) 774-1350
P.O. Box 8469, St. Thomas, U.S.V.I. 00801, PADI 5 Star
Daily Boat Dives, Rentals. Next to Cruise Ship Dock at
Ramada Yacht Haven Marina and Frenchman's Reef Hotel.

VENEZUELA

LOS ROQUES 800-247-3483
Caribbean's most action packed Fax 206-441-5431
diving aboard the 85 ft. live-aboard 206-441-3483
ANTARES III. 6 cabins w/pvt. baths. Only \$1375 weekly

OVERSEAS DIVERS' DIRECTORY

The divers direct link to the many
splendors of diving overseas.
For a quick reference to the diving
services overseas, our readers refer to
the "Overseas Divers' Directory" listings.
Look before you leap! Call Skin Diver
Magazine today and find out how to
reach over 1,000,000 readers in 109
countries who are dive and scuba
enthusiasts.



WHERE IS YOUR OVERSEAS LISTING?



6x\$498

12x\$768

(213) 782-2245 or

Fax (213) 782-2556

Skin Diver Magazine
Overseas Divers' Directory
6420 Wilshire Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90048-5515

42 West 18th Street
New York, NY 10011

HOURS: SUN 10-4 • MON - WED 9-6
THUR 9-7pm • FRI 9-1
PHONE HOURS: MON-THURS TO 9 PM

LEISUREPRO

The Diver's Emporium

1-800-637-6880

212-645-1234

24 Hour FAX 212-691-7286

♦ HARVEY'S ♦ TUSA ♦ SHERWOOD ♦ OCEANIC ♦ BEUCHAT ♦ DACOR ♦ US DIVERS ♦ HENDERSON ♦ MARES ♦ ORCA ♦ OCEAN EDGE ♦ DIVE-RITE ♦ SEAQUEST ♦ SCUBA-PRO ♦ BLUE REEF

BLUE REEF



ADMIRAL

The Admiral BC offers all the features you have come to expect from a BC:
• Slim design, plush lining, integral cummerbund harness, dual tank bands, rapid exhaust valve, soft-touch inflator, two large pockets with quick drain, adjustable shoulder strap, hose holder, lower lumbar pad, extra heavy foam padding and more.

\$199⁹⁵



PYRAMID

A true BC for the professional! Back inflated with integrated weight system up to 35 lbs. Unrivaled comfort and stability. Rugged brass inflator with built-in over pressure valve. Lift capacity up to 55 lbs. Dual tank bands capable of single or twin cylinder configuration. Semi hard pack and 4 brass D rings.

\$219⁹⁵



CHAMPION

Finally a BC where you don't have to sacrifice performance, reliability, or fit for an economical price. Rapid exhaust valve, padded cummerbund, soft touch inflator, padded hard pack, two large pockets with quick drain, adjustable shoulder straps, hose holder and more.

\$159⁹⁵

All BCs available in Black, Blue, Lime and Pink colors and in Small, Medium and Large size

MASKS, FINS & SNORKELS

• FOR ALL LEVELS & SKILLS • POPULAR BRAND NAMES

SNORKEL PACKAGE

- Full Foot Fins
- Low Volume Mask
- Silicone Snorkel

44⁹⁵

5% Discount on any 3-piece outfit with Mask, Fin & Snorkel

ADVANCED PACKAGE

- Open Heel Fins
- Silicone Low Volume Mask
- Silicone Flex Snorkel

59⁹⁵

Holiday Specials

Free Gauge Protector

with every computer purchase

Blunt or Point Dive Knife

~~\$24.95~~
now **\$14⁹⁵**

LARGE Mesh Bag

~~\$19.95~~
now **\$14⁹⁵**

3 FINGER Dry Mitt Glove

6.5mm
~~\$14.95~~
now **\$7⁹⁵**

5 FINGER Reef Glove

~~\$6.95~~
now **\$3⁹⁵**

NEOPRENE Weight Belt

~~\$24.95~~
now **\$18⁹⁵**
LR-36 lb. MD-28 lb. SM-22 lb.

BLUE REEF Back Pack

Deluxe w/Wheels
\$79⁹⁵

SHERWOOD Bott. Timer

~~\$59.95~~
now **\$44⁹⁵**
Wrist Mount

BLUE REEF Padded Front Insert Reg. Bag

\$14⁹⁵
with purchase of Deluxe Back Pack

ELECTRONIC DIGITAL GAUGE

Durable & efficient reads: Depth max depth / Dive time / Surface interval / Ascent warning / Water air temp. / Logs 4 dives. Available in three combinations.

Wrist Mount ~~\$119.95~~ now **\$104⁹⁵**

Double Digital Console w/Pressure ~~\$169.95~~ now **\$149⁹⁵**

Triple Digital Console w/Pressure & Compass ~~\$189.95~~ now **\$169⁹⁵**

Specials are while supplies last (exp. 1/3/96)

CAUTION: Life support equipment should be used only with proper instruction and scuba certification. This Ad does not imply the sale of life support equipment via Mail Order.

BLUE REEF ROYAL SUITS

6.5mm Neoprene Wetsuit

- Farmer John step-in jacket
- Soft stretch neoprene • YKK zipper
- Durable knee pads quality sealed edges. • Plush, smooth & cozy fits like a second skin.

Available in all colors & sizes. **only 149⁹⁵**

Also available 2mm Shorty **59.95**

Royal Polartec® Suits

- Nylon/Lycra outer layer
- Velor fleece lining • YKK zippers non corrosive slides
- 100% Windproof
- Machine washable
- Spine pad • Padded shoulder
- Thermal capacity - 70° and up

Available in colors & sizes. **only 139⁹⁵**

Royal Lycra Skins

- 8 oz. Nylon/Lycra tricot fabric • 82% nylon, 18% lycra • 200% stretch • Center back seam
- YKK zippers non corrosive slides
- Machine washable Available in colors & sizes.

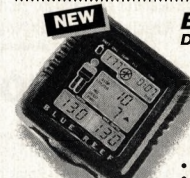
only 49⁹⁵

Harvey's & Henderson Suits - Call for Prices



Air Plus Regulators

A down stream demand system which provides the diver with reliable and high performance. The Air Plus is constructed of the finest materials available. Polyplast coating which is baked on brass at 500 degrees to give you the strength of brass and the protection of high impact plastics. Balanced piston, 2 high pressure ports, 4 low pressure ports, 360° swivel 30" hose



BLUE REEF AGRESSOR Decompression Computer

- Patented Color-coded pictograph • Instant Readability
- Visual and Audio Alarm • Automatic Activation
- Automatic Back lighting
- Auto Altitude Compensating (to 10,000 ft.)
- 9 Dive Log History • Pre-Dive Scrolling Mode
- Nitrogen Level • No Decompression Time • Depth
- Decompression Status • Maximum Depth • Bottom Time
- Temperature • Dive Counter • Battery Level Status
- User replaceable Battery
- Display area 4.8 sq. in.
- Work depth to 220 ft.

239⁹⁵

DIVER'S PACKAGES

DIVER'S PACKAGE #1004

- BLUE REEF Admiral BC
- BLUE REEF Air Plus Regulator
- BLUE REEF Cayman Double Console 240 ft. depth w/MDI and 5000 PSI
- BLUE REEF Air Plus Octopus
- Regulator Bag • Diver's Mini Lite
- Oct Holder • Gauge Holder • Hose Protectors

Only \$469⁹⁵

PACKAGE #1001

- TUSA Liberator 2 BC
- Sherwood Brut Regulator
- Cayman Double Console
- Blue Reef Duffel Bag

\$394⁹⁵

PACKAGE #1002

- BLUE REEF Champion BC
- Sherwood Brut Regulator
- Double Console 240 Depth w/MDI

\$329⁹⁵

PACKAGE #1003

- BLUE REEF Admiral BC
- US Divers Aquarius Regulator
- Tri Gauge 240 w/MDI, 5000 psi/ and compass

\$419⁹⁵

Create Your Own Brand Name Package - Mix & Match any BC/Reg/Console for significant Savings- Call for Details

DIVER'S WATCHES HEADQUARTERS

CITIZEN

PRO MASTER SERIES

Aqualand **249⁹⁵**

#CQ1063 **249⁹⁵**

#JH0054-03E **269.95**

#AL0014-00W **334.95**

#AL0014-00E **349.95**

#AL0014-51E **389.95**

#AL0004-03W **339.95**

#AL0004-09E **349.95**

CQ1071-50 **419.95**

Titanium

JH0054-03X **269.95**

AH2054-61A Titanium **499.95**

AY5024-58E Chrono. **259.95**

New Aqualand Duplex **Call**



TAG HEUER

1000 2-tone **409.95**

1000 all Stainless **299.95**

2000 2 tone **499.95**

3000 2 tone **399.95**

4000 all Stainless **479.95**

SEIKO

New Seiko Kinetic **269.95**

S23542 Scuba 200m DM **309.95**

S05105 Diver's 200m **174.95**

S05105 Diver's 200m **174.95**

SWY021 **254.95**

S23469 Diver's Qtz. w/Log. **269.95**

S2339 **499.95** SHC033 **199.95**

S233287 Scubamaster Com **Call**

SWY022 Sport Tech **269.95**

CASIO

ARW-320DF Depth Meter **54.95**

DW 5700 G Shock **59.95**

DW 5900 G Shock **47.95**

DW 5300 **44.95**

DW 6100 **64.95**

DW 6200 **59.95**

AW 550 G Shock **52.95**

DEP 510C **184.95**

DEP 600C **299.95**

AW 560 G Shock **52.95**

DW 6400 G Shock **76.95**

DW 6600 G Shock **61.95**

TS 200 Therm. **39.95**

DW 340 **39.95**

DW 6500 **78.95**

AW 23 **39.95**

CATALOG

For a copy of our new illustrated catalog please print your name, address and day time phone and mail to: LeisurePro-Customer Service / Catalog Request

/ 42 West 18th St. / New York, NY 10011

TRADE UP!

Trade in your old unwanted diving equipment for cash or towards the purchase of a new system
Call for details

WE WILL REPAIR YOUR DIVING EQUIPMENT

LEISURE PRO

We won't be undersold 1-800-637-6880
212-645-1234

COMPUTERS

LARGEST SELECTION OF BRAND NAME COMPUTERS
WE CARRY METRIC COMPUTERS
CALL FOR DETAILS

DACOR

Omni Dive Computer
• Decomp. Warning
• Ceiling Warning
• On/Log Button • Graphic
Time Bar • Fast Ascent
Warning • Safe to Fly etc.
• Wrist or Hose Mount



299⁹⁵

OCEANIC Data Max Sport

Navcon Pressure & Compas Included
• Dive Depth • Dive Time • Decompression
Stop • Time To Fly • Surface Interval
• Log Book • Altitude Sector • Desaturation
Time ETC. (also avail.
in wrist or Hose Mt.)

299⁹⁵

Dacor Omni Pro.....Call
Dacor Omni Console.....369.95
Orca Marathon.....189.95
Orca Phoenix.....479.95
Orca Phoenix Aud.....549.95
TUSA Wrist IQ 300.....Call
TUSA SCA 820 Console.....Call
TUSA SCA 820.....Call
US Diver Monitor II.....Call
US Diver Scan 4.....Call
US Divers Pivot Matrix.....Call
US Divers Monitor 3 Hoseless.....Call
Citizen Hyper Aqualand
with Interface Unit 269.95

SHERWOOD
Encore Combo.....269.95
Encore Wrist/Hose.....224.95
Source Wrist/Hose.....199.95
Source Combo.....249.95
Seiko Computer.....Call
Dacor Omni Pro.....Call
Scuba Pro DC II Computer
Console.....349.95
Oceanic Dalmat Pro.....Call
Oceanic Dalmat Sport.....239.95
The Bridge (Nitrox).....Call
Air Integrated Hoseless
Computer.....Call
Interface & Software.....Call

EXCLUSIVE CONSOLES

• Oceanic DataMax II Navcon.....214.95
• Oceanic MultiMax Navcon.....239.95
• Oceanic Max-Depth Navcon.....139.95
• Sherwood Sigma Combo Gauge 200' (5730).....104.95
• Sherwood Compass Capsule.....39.95
• Tri Gauge PSI 5000 Press. with max depth.....119.95
• Pressure Gauge ONLY.....54.95
• Double Console PSI 5000 pressure / depth.....84.95
• Double Console Metric & Bar.....89.95
• Dacor Endura Console.....139.95
• Dacor Digital Console.....219.95
• Dacor System Console.....44.95
• TUSA SCA/760 Console Triple Gauge.....Call

• TUSA SCA/720 Double Gauge.....Call
• US DIVERS Data Pro DS2 with Bottom Timer.....199.95
• US DIVERS Compass Module.....44.95
• US DIVERS Pivot DP2.....119.95
• US DIVERS Pivot Data pro 2 Hi-Vis.....129.95
• US Divers Pivot Compass.....39.95
• US Divers Pro Wrist Compass.....44.95
• Scuba Pro Console VIP #28085.....184.95
• Scuba Pro Dive Sonar 1.....179.95
• Scuba Pro Dive Sonar 2.....224.95
• Scuba Pro V.I.P. 2 Console 230'.....189.95
• Scuba Pro V.I.P. 3 Console Compass.....249.95
• Scuba Pro LS1 Compass Wrist.....59.95

PICK FROM THESE TOP RATED REGULATORS

US DIVERS

Micra +
Conshell 22, SE 2,
SEA-4, SE 3
Aquarius

SHERWOOD

Maximus
Magnum II,
Blizzard, Brut
Oasis 2, Classic

MARES

MR-12 Voltrex
MR-12 Navy
MR-22 Abyss
MR-12 HIFC
Call for Price

OCEANIC

Omega II,
Alpha,
Delta
Call for Price

DACOR

EXTREME
EXTREME +
ENDURO
Call for Price

TUSA

Imprex TR-400
Liberator TR-200
Imprex-2 TR-350
TR-3000, TR-390
Call for Price

BEUCHAT

NAVY RATED
VX10
VTR8
V54
Call for Price

COMBINED REGULATOR & BC POWER INFLATOR SYSTEM

Replace your octopus with this system so you'll have one less gear to wear.
Equivalent to SeaQuest air source or Scuba Pro A.I.R., 2 only 119⁹⁵

BLUE REEF AIRMAR OCTOPUS

with Long Hose
only \$49⁹⁵
with purchase of
any Regulator

Scuba Pro G200.....149.95
Scuba Pro Octopus R190.....114.95

DIVE LIGHTS

Compact Light

with Halogen,
Spare Bulb &
Lanyard with 4 C Batteries



24⁹⁵

UNDERWATER KINETICS

UK-400.....34.95 UK-400R.....104.95
UK-1200 Hal.....42.95 UK-800R.....159.95
Q40.....25.95 Q60.....28.95
Mini Q40.....14.95 SL-4 Sunlight.....21.95
SL-6.....25.95

PELICAN

Super Pellite.....19.95 Mitylite.....10.95
Super Saberlite.....19.95 Super Mitylite.....12.95
Kinglite.....49.95 Dual Six.....69.95
Britelite.....34.95

IKELITE

Mini C-Lite H.....23.95 Maxi C-Lite H.....32.95
Mini C-Front.....41.95 Maxi C-Front.....49.95
Super C-Lite.....39.95 Super C-Lite HR.....109.95
Sata Lite.....39.95 Sata Lite Coil.....44.95
RCD Light.....39.95
Princeton Tec Lights.....Call

KNIVES

WENOKA SEAQUEST

COMPACT COMFORT Z-LOCK II.....49.95
FULL SIZE-MID SIZE Z-LOCK.....54.95
Full #41614, 41615/Mid 41611, 41612.....54.95
COMMAND SERIES Z-LOCK.....49.95 NEO CLASSIC Z-LOCK.....44.95
#41663.....49.95 #41717.....49.95
MINI Z-LOCK.....49.95 SEA LAZER Z-LOCK.....34.95
#41606, 41607.....34.95 #41610, 41609.....34.95
MICRO MINI.....49.95
#41705, 41706.....24.95

OCEAN MASTER

Titanium Point.....64.95 Titanium Blunt.....64.95
TUSA
FK840.....Call FK800.....Call
SCUBA PRO
Titanium Med.....109.95 Titanium LR.....114.95
BLUE REEF
Point.....24.95 Blunt.....24.95

No Surcharge for MasterCard or Visa Purchases. Personal checks welcome, will ship without delay. Name must be printed on check, also include address, phone, and a copy of major credit card or drivers license for reference. Shipping, handling and insurance additional. 14 day money back guarantee less shipping, with packing and blank warranty card. For return/exchange, call for RA#. We ship UPS. Some items special order. All orders are subject to acceptance and verification. Products may not be eligible for rebates offered by manufacturer unless mfg. or dist. warranty included. Pictures are for illustration purposes only and may not be exact. N.Y. Residents add Sales Tax. Not responsible for typographical errors. Prices effective till January 3, 1996

BAGS and BELTS

BACK PACKS

Large Economy Pack 59⁹⁵
Regulator Bag Front Insert 12.50
Deluxe Pack w/wheels 89.95
Padded Regulator Bag 19.95



WEIGHT BELTS

4 Pocket, 5 Pocket, 6 Pocket or 7 Pocket
Mesh.....19.95
Neoprene.....24.95
Belt w/Buckle.....9.95
Scuba Pro Jet Belt.....21.95

DUFFEL BAGS

Large.....29.95
Dlx w/wheels.....49.95

MESH BAGS

Large.....19.95
Back Pack.....24.95
Snorkel Bag w/Pocket 16.95

SEAQUEST WENOKA BAGS

XL Pro Excel Pac.....124.95
Pro Excel Pac with wheels.....129.95
Super Pack w/wheels.....69.95
Snorkel Pack.....29.95
Super Pack Duffel.....44.95
Compact Pro Excel Pac.....64.95
Max Pac.....49.95
Super Pack 3.....54.95
Pro Excel Pac.....114.95
Tank Tote (80 C.U.).....12.95
Deluxe Super Pac.....54.95

MARES PNEUMATIC GUNS

Cyrano 550.....134.95 Cyrano 850.....144.95
Cyrano 700.....139.95 Cyrano 970.....149.95
Cyrano 1100.....159.95

TECH DIVING

We now have a
full line of
DIVE RITE
equipment

Underwater Photography



Nikonos
RS
Call



NIKONOS-V

RS LENSES AND ACCESSORIES
New 13/2.8 Fisheye.....Call
28/2.8.....Call 50/2.8
20-35.....Call 58-104
Double Bracket.....219.95
Extension Arm.....189.95
O Ring R514.95 Dbl. Cord 149.

Nikonos V.....579.95
Nikonos V w/35/2.5.....739.95
New Aqua Lens f/Nikon.....Call
152.8 UW.....1559. 28/3.5 UW.....369.
20/2.8 UW.....729. 35/2.5 UW.....369.
80/4 UW.....17.95
28mm UW Finder.....17.95
35 & 80mm UW Finder.....19.95

ACCS. for NIKONOS
Ikelite Ext Tube Set.....99.95
Ikelite Opt. Viewfinder.....119.95

New! AQUA LENS

SYSTEM for Nikonos - Call

TECHNICAL LIGHTING ARMS

and Accessories f/Nikonos.....Call

UNDERWATER ACC.

Sekonic L164C Meter.....259.95
Morris UW Slave Flash.....59.95
Arm Joint (Repl).....49.95

SEA & SEA NIKONOS ACCS

12/3.5 Fisheye (167").....Call
Finder f/12mm F.E.....Call

High eyepoint Viewfinder.....153.5
20/3.5 w/c.....Call
16/5 Conv Lens.....Call
Optical Viewfinder.....Call

Y5-50 TTL w/Arm & Tray.....Call
Y5120 TTL Strobe.....Call
Y5300 TTL Strobe.....Call
Ext Tubes.....Call

NIKONOS-V

80/4 UW.....17.95
28mm UW Finder.....17.95
35 & 80mm UW Finder.....19.95

DF-11 289.95 DF-12 184.95
SB 105 Complete.....Call
SB 105 Flash Head.....439.95
TTL Sync Cord (Repl).....94.95
Arm Joint (Repl).....49.95

(SU101) Sensor Unit f/58102.....49.95
Double TTL Sync Cord.....149.95

Open water sync cord.....329.95
set double.....159.95
Double Bracket.....329.95
Dbl Bracket Set f/58105/3/2.....149.95
Ext Arm Set f/58105/3/2.....209.95
Close-Up Kit w/o case.....7.95
Lens Hood & Filter Holder.....49.95
Original Nikonos Case.....10.95
O-Ring Set.....Call

SEA&SEA

Motor Marine MX-10
MX-10 w/external flash Kit
20mm Converter Lens f/MX-10
Macro Lens f/MX-10
Color Correction Filter



New MOTOR MARINE II/EX

w/TTL Flash capability & DX Film

Coding, 1/125 sync.....Call
power wind & rewind.....Call
Motor Marine II EX Kit.....Call
with Y550 TTL flash.....Call
UP-Pro UW Filter f/MM II.....44.95
16mm Conv. lens.....Call
20mm Conv. lens.....Call
Macro lens (1:2) Call.....Call
Macro lens (1:2) Call.....Call
Y5-50 TTL II Kit.....9.95
Bulk Head Conn. f/MM-I.....9.95

5X-1000

5X-1000 Camera with UW

Housing - Complete Pkg. Call

New UW Housings

NX-50 Housing f/Nikon N50 Call

NX-500 Hsng. f/Canon Rebel Call

AQUA VISION Housings

New Aquatica f/N90 Elec. Call

Aquatica f/Nikon 8008 799.95

Aquatica f/Nikon F3 999.95

Aquatica f/Nikon F4 1299.95

New Aluminum Housing f/most

Sony TR Cameras.....Call

EXPLORE THE DEPTHS WITH CANON EOS SLRS

CE-05/CE-05N (for EOS A2/A2E)

- Marine grade aluminum casting
- High-eyepoint viewfinder magnifier
- External controls for selecting AF controls

EOS A2E

- Eye-controlled focus
- Wide-zone 5-point AF
- Full-featured Electronic Control Dials

CE-RX (for EOS Rebel X-S)

- Marine grade aluminum casting
- High-eyepoint viewfinder magnifier
- External controls for selecting AF controls

EOS Rebel XS

- Fast 3-point multi-wide AF
- Command dial with 10 different modes

Sure-Shot

A-1

- Underwater operation up to 16.4 ft. • High eye-point large viewfinder
- 3 point smart autofocus



BM-20E

TTL

• for

Canon

TTL

systems and use with CE

Series



CE-100 (for EOS Elan)

DIVING ACCESSORIES

FISHER METAL DETECTORS & SONARS

Pulse 8x.....Call Pulse 6x.....Call
The Rattler.....14.95 STD Snorkel Vest.....34.95
Snorkel Vest w/CO2.....39.95
Scuba Pro Tank Handle.....9.95
Dive Rite Reels and Lights.....Call
Scuba Tube Dive Signal.....9.95
Save A Dive Kit (6 pc.).....14.95
Secure Custom Mouthpiece.....24.95
The Quest.....24.95

Flag and Wire.....12.95
Sea Drops for mask.....2.99
Scuba tool all in one tool.....24.95
Lift bag 100 lb.....29.95 Lift bag 50 lb.....26.95
Warm Water Glove w/VELCRO.....14.95
Cold Water Glove w/VELCRO.....23.95
Boots 3/16 w/Zipper.....24.95 K Valve only.....32.95
Suunto Compass w/Side View SK-6.....44.95
Dive Alert.....44.95
Seascope Mask Strap.....9.95
Full line of Dive Accessories.....Call for Price

SPARE AIR KIT

A dependable alternate air source.
• 3000 psi 2.7 cu • Air refill adapter • Universal mounting system

199⁹⁵

circle #74 on Reader Service Card

CALL FOR DETAILS - 800-637-6880



PADI Dive Center

EMERALD VISION & SOUND

WE HAVE THE LARGEST SELECTION, LOWEST PRICES & BEST SERVICE

SUBXERO

Subxero Housing is constructed of a high grade polyvinyl plastic. This Material is completely corrosion proof and prevents internal fogging. Patented "x" ring provides double seal advantage.

- Clear End Plates
- Dome Port
- Zoom Control
- Pause & Standby
- White Balance (opt.)
- Time/Date (opt.)



AVAILABLE FOR JVC PANASONIC VHS-C AND 8MM

BENTLEY

Specially formulated polyurethane meets all the demands of the most rugged conditions.

- Color Correction Filter
- 4.2amp/hr Battery
- Depth Rated 250ft
- Wide Angle Lens



CALL

ikelite

A clear mechanical housing that provides instant visual inspection of camera and functions

TR 101/81.....\$569
TR 200/300.....\$549

AVAILABLE FOR ALL JVC'S



- TR-600
- Hi-8mm
 - 24X Zoom
 - Hi-Fi Stereo
 - Image Stabilization
 - Digital Signal Processing

CAMCORDERS

\$799



- TR-700
- 3 Lux
 - 10X Zoom
 - Hi-Fi Stereo
 - Color Viewfinder
 - Stabilization System

CALL

800-980-2929

127 W. 24 ST NYC, N.Y. 10011

24 HR FAX # 212-463-7143

TEL # 212-463-7663

MON-FRI 9am-10pm

SAT 10am-6pm

ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS

AMPHIBICO

Amphibicam Aluminum Housings unique design have incorporated state-of-the-art electronic circuitry

- High-Quality Optics
- Umbilical Connection
- External Microphone
- Depth rated to 330 ft.
- Double O'Ring Seals
- Push Button Elect. Controls
- External Color Correction Filter
- Full Camera Functions Under water

• Available for TR-200, TR-500, TR-700 and more!



SONY

MPK-TRA is compatible with most TR and FX Handycams

- Electronic Controls
- Start/Stop Rec.
- Lightweight
- Zoom



VIDEO COURSE

(Continued from Page 112)

moving the camcorder closer to the subject. You will end the shot just as your glide ends but will take another MS from a slightly different camera angle. Your next shots could be closer views of the fish in the frame and the divers' faces. You can end this sequence by either pulling back from an MS to an LS and ending the shot or shooting an MS to LS of the divers leaving.

The shot list is expanding:

14. LS to MS: Divers photographing fish.
15. MS (different angle): Divers photographing fish.
16. CU: Fish in framers.
17. CU: Divers' faces.
18. MS: Divers photographing fish.
19. LS: Divers leaving.

CREATING AN ENDING

One way to end a video story is to shoot the beginning in reverse. We started with a diver stepping off the dive platform, an overlap shot of the diver breaking through the surface and another shot of the diver descending. Therefore, you can use a shot of one or more divers ascending and a shot of a diver reaching the boarding ladder. Stop the shot as soon as the diver reaches the ladder. You can use another shot of the diver climbing up the ladder and disappearing from view. Lastly, get aboard and get a topside shot of a diver coming up the ladder. It doesn't have to be the same diver as in the previous shot—the action will join the two views.

We can end the shot list as follows:

20. LS: Diver or divers ascend.
21. LS or MS: Diver reaches ladder.
22. MS: Diver climbs ladder.
23. MS (topside): Diver boards boat.

CONCLUSIONS

When editing in camera, remember the four key words: subject, start, end and next. For simplicity, this lesson used 24 shots to illustrate a video documenting a dive. You can, and probably will, use a greater number of shots. For example, you would probably shoot several shots, at different camera angles, of the lionfish in shot #10. Lastly, be prepared for opportunity shots should a manta or shark glide by.

FOLLOW THE GOLDEN RULE

The golden rule of shooting video is: Each time you begin a new shot, change the camera angle, image size or both. In addition to using the zoom control, you can change image size by varying the camera to subject distance.

Be a Reef Lover,
Always Hover!



MR. DIVER

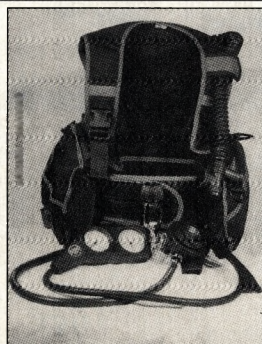
Info. Line: 901-593-5926
Faxes: 800-223-5747/901-593-5931

1-800-532-2228

We're open Mon-Fri.
7 am to 6 pm Central Time;
Sat. 8 am to 12 noon
(order line only on Saturday).
Order direct from this ad.

CALL FOR OUR
FREE, FULL-COLOR
CATALOG!

PT. Mason Road • P.O. Box 36 • Big Sandy, TN 38221



- BC, Regulator + Console Package
- PRODUCK "ULTRA 4" BC
 - Padded backpack
 - S to XL
 - Velcro pocket
 - Black w/blue trim
 - Loaded w/extras
 - PRODUCK "PIRATE" REGULATOR
 - PRODUCK 2 GAUGE CONSOLE
 - w/altitude adj. and max depth ind.

CALL FOR FREE CATALOG!

OUR POLICY:

We sell top quality products. Very good prices and quick service.

We offer name brand gear along with our own PRO-DUCK BAT-MASTER & THUNDERBOLT brand. All new merchandise.

We offer a 30-day money back guarantee on all products except custom or special order items minus shipping.

HUNDREDS OF OTHER ITEMS IN STOCK, READY TO SHIP.

\$329

with octopus

\$379

(\$20 extra

for XXL BC)

CENTRAL SKINDIVERS SAVES YOU MONEY!!! BIG DISCOUNTS ON ALL THE NAME BRANDS

1-800-53-SCUBA



NAME BRAND CONSOLES

PRESSURE/ MAX-DEPTH COMBO	\$ 79
PRESSURE/ MAX-DEPTH/ COMPASS TRIPLE	\$119
PRESSURE/ TEMP/ MAX-DEPTH COMBO	\$129
PRESSURE/ ELECTRONIC DEPTH/TIMER	\$199
ELECTRONIC FULL DECO COMPUTER	\$199
PRESSURE GAUGE WITH HOSE	\$ 65

FAMOUS MAKE CONSOLE W/PRESSURE GAUGE, COMPUTER AND COMPASS **\$269**

Central Pays Shipping

DYNAMITE DIGITAL DISCOUNTS
GUARANTEED LOWEST PRICES ON DIGITAL COMPUTERS AND GAUGES FROM DACOR, OCEANIC, BEUCHAT, COCHRAN, SHERWOOD, TUSA, UWATEC, U.S. DIVERS, ORCA, ETC.

PLAY IT SAFE WITH SPARE AIR

1996 PACKAGE DEAL "A"
BUOYANCY COMPENSATOR JACKET with power, soft band pack, rapid exhaust, L.P. hose; Famous make **BALANCED REGULATOR**; **OCTOPUS** with long hose; **DOUBLE CONSOLE** with pressure and max depth. Save hundreds of dollars with CENTRAL'S SPECIAL PRICE OF ONLY \$499

CENTRAL PAYS SHIPPING

Closing out all rental equipment- Suits \$50/Tanks \$50
Gauges \$40/Regulators \$60 - In Store Only

WATCHES

CITIZEN AQUALAND-PROMASTER	CALL
CITIZEN QUARTZ DATE	\$149
QUARTZ 100 METERS	\$ 20
FAMOUS MAKE AUTOMATIC	\$129
CHRONOSPORT BLACK U.D.T.	\$499
FAMOUS STAINLESS & GOLD	\$349

Central Pays Shipping

MANY OTHER QUARTZ & AUTOMATIC MODELS
AVAILABLE FROM STOCK FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY

1996 PACKAGE DEAL "B"

FAMOUS MAKE REGULATOR with swivel first stage and adjustable second stage; **DELUXE BUOYANCY COMPENSATOR** with power; L.P. hose, soft band pack, rapid exhaust, cummerbund; **TRIPLE CONSOLE** with pressure, max depth, compass, **OCTOPUS** with long hose. Save hundreds of dollars by buying this famous brand package for CENTRAL'S LOW, LOW PRICE OF \$649

CENTRAL PAYS SHIPPING

TANK SPECIALS IN STORE ONLY

Top Name Brand with Deluxe Valve

ALUMINUM 15 CU. FT. CALL	
ALUMINUM 30 CU. FT. CALL	
ALUMINUM 65 CU. FT. CALL	
ALUMINUM 80 CU. FT. CALL	
ALUMINUM 100 CU. FT. CALL	
STEEL 100 CU. FT. CALL	
STEEL 120 CU. FT. CALL	
DELUXE KAM PACK	\$55

IN-STORE SUPER SPECIAL! 80 CU. FT. ALUMINUM
TANK COMPLETE WITH DELUXE VALVE **\$109.99**



THERMO-PLASTIC FIN

Jet Type Blade, "Space Age"

materials with Adjustable Straps

CLEAR STRAP FIN	\$ 35
PRO STRAP FIN	\$ 50
SILICONE MASK	\$ 29
PRESCRIPTION MASK	\$ 99
SILICONE VENT SNORKEL	\$ 15
HARD SOLE BOOTS	\$ 25
FIVE-FINGER GLOVES	\$ 25

Central Pays Shipping

WHY BUY A PACKAGE DEAL FROM CENTRAL?
BECAUSE ONLY CENTRAL GIVES YOU EVERY ITEM MADE BY A FAMOUS MANUFACTURER. THIS MEANS YOU HAVE A TRIPLE GUARANTEE. YOUR LOCAL DIVE SHOP, CENTRAL, OR THE NATIONALLY FAMOUS MANUFACTURER, AND "OF COURSE", NOBODY BEATS CENTRAL'S PRICES FOR OVER 44 YEARS

CENTRAL is open 6 days a week. Orders placed with charge cards or money orders are shipped within hours. All shipping and insurance is paid by CENTRAL in continental U.S.A. WE CANNOT BE UNDERSOLD! If you see something advertised for less, let us know and we'll beat the price. Call 1-800-53 SCUBA now!!

OPEN 6 DAYS MON. TO SAT. 10-6:30

ATTENTION!

READING THIS COULD SAVE YOU A LOT OF MONEY AND A LOT OF TROUBLE!

At CENTRAL, you get nationally advertised name-brand products at rock bottom prices and we are authorized dealers of every item we sell. But beware; some advertisers in this magazine are not factory authorized and are selling "Grey Market" merchandise!! Read the small print in those big ads, because if you purchase DACOR, U.S. DIVERS, SCUBAPRO, ETC. from a non-authorized dealer, you could end up without a valid U.S. Warranty.

BUOYANCY COMPENSATORS

Famous Makes, Best Quality, Low Pressure

Inflator & Hose, Quick Dump, Travel Pack.

DELUXE BLADDERLESS	\$159
SUPER DELUXE BLADDERLESS	\$199
SOFT PACK BLADDERLESS	\$229
MILITARY HORSECOLLAR WITH CO2	\$229
BACK MOUNTED CORDURA B.C.	\$229
FAMOUS MAKE WEIGHT DROP	\$249
ORIGINAL MANTA STYLE	CALL
B.C. AIR-3 OCTO/REGULATOR	\$149

B.C.'S AND STAB JACKETS FROM SHERWOOD, OCEANIC, U.S. DIVERS, DACOR, SEAQUEST, SEATEC, BEUCHAT, TUSA, ETC.

BAGS & BACKPACKS

MEDIUM MESH GAME BAG	\$ 13
LARGE MESH GAME BAG	\$ 16
MEDIUM MESH GEAR BAG	\$ 22
LARGE MESH GEAR BAG	\$ 25
LARGE DELUXE MESH GEAR BAG	\$ 49
EXTRA LARGE BACK PACK BAG	\$ 89
SUPER LARGE GEAR BAG W/WHEELS	\$ 89

Central Pays Shipping

ALL OTHER BAGS ALSO ON SALE

UNDERWATER LIGHTS

4 CELL FLASH	\$ 29
4 CELL LANTERN	\$ 45
8 CELL LANTERN DELUXE	\$ 65
6 VOLT RECHARGEABLE	\$109
6 VOLT SEALED BEAM BULBS	\$ 10

KNIVES

5" BLADE WITH SHEATH	\$ 20
5 1/2" BLADE WITH SHEATH	\$ 29
4 1/4" BLADE SUPER DELUXE	\$ 39

1996 PACKAGE DEAL "C"

DELUXE BLADDERLESS BUOYANCY

COMPENSATOR with soft touch inflator, cummerbund, quick release shoulder straps, rapid exhaust; **DOUBLE CONSOLE** with max depth; **HIGH PERFORMANCE REGULATOR** with extremely smooth flow thru balanced piston. This name brand package is a CENTRAL LOW, LOW SPECIAL AT \$389

CENTRAL PAYS SHIPPING

SUPER CLOSE-OUTS

NEOPRENE POCKET BELT	(List \$45)	\$ 35
MESH POCKET BELT	(List \$30)	\$ 20
DIVE ALERT	(List \$50)	\$ 40
PADDLED REGULATOR BAG	(List \$35)	\$ 20
UNDERWATER SCOOTER	(List \$1495)	CALL
METAL DETECTORS	(List \$1145)	CALL
SPARE AIR	(List \$299)	CALL



Central Skindivers

160-09 Jamaica Ave., Jamaica, NY 11432

(718) 739-5772 • Open 6 Days

Minutes from Manhattan and Kennedy Airport

WE KNOW EVERY DIVING ITEM MADE. WE SELL ONLY
BRAND NAMES AT BIG DISCOUNTS TO SAVE YOU MONEY.
WE SERVICE EVERYTHING WE SELL.



REGULATORS

ADJUSTABLE SUPER DELUXE	(List \$419)	\$ 279
ADJUSTABLE DELUXE	(List \$358)	\$ 229
DELUXE BALANCED PISTON	(List \$300)	\$ 199
FAMOUS MAKE DIAPHRAGM	(List \$320)	\$ 179
FAMOUS MAKE PISTON	(List \$230)	\$ 149
OCTOPUS (SAFE SECOND)	(List \$130)	\$ 79

Central Pays Shipping

REGULATORS FROM U.S. DIVERS, DACOR, BEUCHAT, TUSA, SHERWOOD, POSEIDON, OCEANIC, ETC. ALWAYS ON SALE

BUY AMERICAN FIRST

Sushi and Spaghetti have no technical parts, but Regulators, Gauges, & Buoyancy Compensators do. You should try to buy NAME BRANDS made in the U.S.A. 93% of CENTRAL'S recommendations are U.S.A. made. PLEASE, PLEASE PLEASE call us before you spend your hard earned money. We have thrilled divers with our price and expert advice since 1952. Call us, the advice is FREE and so are the shipping charges.

1-800-53-SCUBA 6 DAYS - MONTHRU SAT

REGULATOR

OCTOPUS

B.C. JACKET

GAUGES

TANK

SUIT

KNIFE

LIGHT

WATCH

Call and Ask For Your Own
Custom Package Deal
Use part or all or more than this list.

YOU PAY CENTRAL'S
ROCK BOTTOM QUOTE

NOBODY BEATS CENTRAL'S
PRICE, QUALITY & DELIVERY

FAMOUS MAKE WETSUITS

1/4" JACKET/FARMER SUPERSTRETCH	\$159
1/4" JACKET/FARMER SUPERPLUSH	\$189
1/8" JACKET/FARMER SUPERSTRETCH	\$149
1/8" ONE PIECE JUMP SUIT	\$ 99
1/8" FAMOUS MAKE SHORTY	\$ 75
POLARTECH SUITS	CALL
NEOPRENE DRY SUITS	\$550

Central Pays Shipping

SHARKSKIN SUITS

3/16" AND 1/4" NYLON 1 SIDE SHARKSKIN
JACKET & PANTS

Small Sizes Only - \$79

OTHER WET OR DRY SUITS AND SHORTIES AND
SKINS FROM VIKING, PARKWAY, U.S. DIVERS,
HENDERSON, POSEIDON, HARVEY, O'NEILL, ETC.
ALWAYS ON SALE.

DELUXE SPEAR GUNS

JUNIOR 31" RUBBER	(List \$91)	\$ 69
STANDARD 42" RUBBER	(List \$106)	\$ 79
DELUXE 53" RUBBER	(List \$166)	\$ 135
DELUXE PNEUMATIC 34"	(List \$250)	\$ 199
STANDARD PNEUMATIC 29"	(List \$200)	\$ 169
JUNIOR PNEUMATIC 23"	(List \$185)	\$ 159

1996 SUPREME SHERWOOD PACKAGE
IN STORE ONLY

Advanced DELUXE BCD with power, rapid exhaust, cummerbund pockets, etc; Unique and excellent OASIS REGULATOR that keeps your air moist; Low profile OCTOPUS; New pressure max-depth, thermometer, compass TRIPLE CONSOLE; 80 cu. Ft. TANK with K valve. Retail over \$1200 elsewhere. **CENTRAL SPECIAL \$799.**

SPECIAL PACKAGE DEALS ON DACOR, U.S. DIVERS, TUSA, OCEANIC AND MANY OTHER MANUFACTURERS.

CENTRAL SKINDIVERS

NOBODY SELLS FOR LESS AND NOBODY DELIVERS
FASTER THAN CENTRAL! PHONE FOR RUSH ORDERS!

PHONE: 1-800-53 SCUBA

(718) 739-5772 - FAX (718) 739-3679

All Phone orders received before 1:00 p.m. are shipped same day! If you prefer to send a money order, your order will be shipped same day. Personal checks take time to clear. Sorry, no C.O.D. orders



BERRY SCUBA COMPANY

PROFESSIONAL DIVE SHOPS AND TRAINING CENTERS

Authorized Dealer of Sherwood, U.S. Divers, U.S. Tech, Dacor, Tusa and many others.

U.S. TECH TRAVELER BCD



Fully loaded and more comfortable than ever the '96 Traveler rates among the industries best. Limited lifetime warranty.

SALE \$219⁹⁵

U.S. TECH ABC BCD



Redesigned for '96 the ABC brings out comfort and support in a hard pack like never before. Limited lifetime warranty.

SALE \$189⁹⁵

**TO PLACE AN ORDER
OR TO FIND OUT
MORE ABOUT THESE
AND THE MANY
OTHER PRODUCTS
OFFERED BY BERRY
SCUBA, CALL
1-800-621-6019
ASK FOR YOUR FREE
COLOR CATALOG**

Berry Scuba Co.
6674 N. Northwest Hwy.
Chicago, IL 60631
(312) 763-1626
Fax (312) 775-1815
Toll Free 1 (800) 621-6019

Berry Scuba Co.
Yorktown Convenience Ctr.
Yorktown Mall
Lombard, IL 60148
(708) 495-2822

Berry Scuba Co.
1294 E. Dundee Rd.
Palatine, IL 60067
(708) 358-3848
As of 2/1/96 -
(847) 358-3848

Berry Scuba Co.
3443 Dogwood Ave.
Hapeville, GA 30354
(404) 766-1186

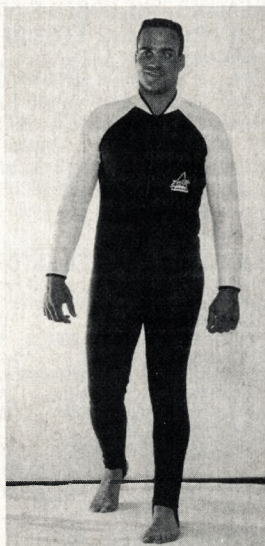
BAYSIDE TITANIUM SUIT



Finally something that is really different and works in a cold water wetsuit. 7 mil of Neoprene plus a layer of Titanium gives you unbelievable warmth. 5 year warranty.

SALE \$269⁹⁵

BAYSIDE POLARTEC[®] SUIT



This is the real stuff, Malden Mills **▲POLARTEC** 2000 material. A suit designed for comfort and warmth (70° and up).

SALE \$149⁹⁵

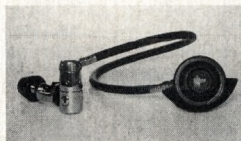
CHALLENGER II REGULATOR



New to the U.S. Tech line for '96 this regulator has been rated as one of the top 12 sport diving regulators. Limited lifetime warranty.

SALE \$219⁹⁵

EXPLORER REGULATOR



U.S. Tech is proud to say this regulator has met and exceeds Navy standards. An excellent sport diver regulator. Limited lifetime warranty.

SALE \$189⁹⁵

CALL FOR IDC INFORMATION PACKAGE

circle #49 on Reader Service Card

WATERHOUSE PHOTO TOURS RELOCATES

WaterHouse Photo Tours has moved its base of operations from Boulder, Colorado to its original corporate home in Key Largo, Florida. This allows for improved communication between reservations staff and management yet maintains the ability to book air fares, special MFT programs for photo groups, as well as the prestigious Nikon School of Underwater Photography and Nikonos Shootouts. As always, WaterHouse can accommodate the needs of individual travelers on a wide variety of live-aboard dive boats and at land based resorts.

WaterHouse's 1996 events include seeing Humpback Whales from the *Turks & Caicos Aggressor* and visiting Truk Lagoon aboard the *Truk Aggressor* in February; a Bonaire Nikonos Shootout in June; a Cayman Brac Nikonos Shootout in July; seeing Orcas in the San Juan Islands and visiting Fiji aboard *Nai'a* in August; a Key Largo Nikonos Shootout in September; a Monterey Nikonos Shootout in October; and visiting the Socorro Islands aboard the *Solmar V* in November.

For further information, contact WaterHouse Photo Tours, P.O. Box 2487, Key Largo, Florida 33037 or call (800) 272-9122, (305) 451-2228 or fax (305) 451-5147. 🐟

LAHAINA DIVERS' TURTLE REEF SEMINARS

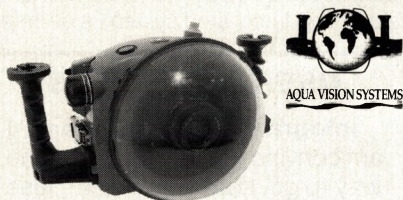
Since Blain Roberts started Lahaina Divers in 1978, he has trained his staff to be fun to dive with, yet still tread lightly while below. This offers visiting divers the best possible diving experience while maintaining the natural balance of the magnificent underwater scenery of Maui, Molokini and Lanai.

Now, the captains and crew of Maui's oldest and most recognized dive business will offer free daily seminars about the Hawaiian Green Sea Turtle on the new Turtle Reef Dive Charter. This charter is available for water enthusiasts of all skill levels, including snorkelers, beginning divers, students and experienced divers.

The Lahaina Divers policy has always been to learn and teach and, through the process, keep the reefs, critters and seas healthy.

For more information on the new Turtle Reef Dive call Lahaina Divers at (800) 998-DIVE (3483). When you visit Maui you may also want to stop by the new store at 143 Dickenson Street, in the heart of historic Lahaina, to check out the beautiful Turtle Reef mural that blankets one wall of the two story diving atrium. 🐢

HUGE SELECTION OF CAMERA & VIDEO HOUSINGS AT DISCOUNT PRICES!

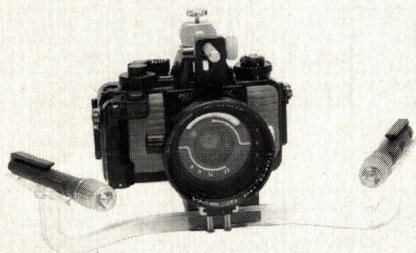


The Aquatica 90sx housing is a state of the art aluminum SLR housing for the Nikon N90/90s. An electronic LCD back links to the camera via the Nikon's datalink port. The housing back lets you electronically control the camera's exposure modes in one of seven languages.

SEA&SEA
UNDERWATER CAMERA EQUIPMENT

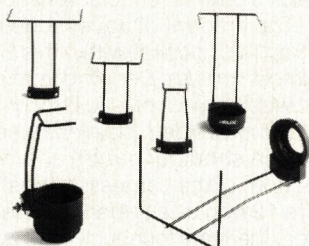


Sea & Sea introduces the Motormarine II EX. The MMIIEX improves upon the original Motormarine II with the addition of user adjustable shutter speeds. This greatly enhances your creativity and helps you make better photographs. Also available from Sea & Sea: Motormarine I, Motormarine II, and Motormarine MX-10.



The Spot Shot from Underwater Photo-Tech simplifies photography with the Nikonos close-up kit. It accepts various models of compact dive lights. Move the camera until the light spots coverage. The Spot-Shot eliminates framer shadows & the risk of framers hitting coral.

HELIX®



Helix Extension tube sets are available for Nikonos 35mm & 28mm lenses. They open your underwater photography to a new world. Basic sets start at \$95.

Nikon

Experience the ultimate in underwater photography with the world's first & only underwater autofocus SLR - the Nikonos RS. Or for the tried and true, the standard of the industry - the Nikonos V.



Nikonos RS



Nikonos V

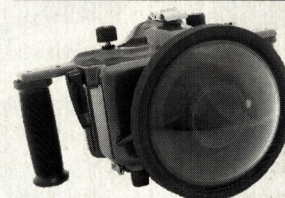
Either way, you benefit from superior Nikkor optics, and Nikon quality. Only Nikon sells more Nikonos than Helix. For the best price and service, call.



The Light & Motion Stingray housing for Sony TR series camcorders is a state-of-the-art lightweight

aluminum housing. It offers finger tip controls, double o-ring bore seals, bayonet optics, and docking connectors. In addition to its internal flip down red filter and amphibious mic, the Stingray utilizes its unique zoom macro optics. Call Helix for expert information.

TUSSEY

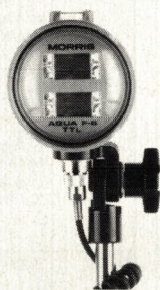


From Tussey, housing for the Nikon N90/N90s! Weighing only 6 lbs. in air & nearly neutral in the water, this housing has a lot to offer. A selection of five lens ports, a working depth of 350 ft., a tough aluminum Tussey Strobe Arm, focusing light holder, LCD view port and much more. Call Helix for more exciting details.

The Morris Co.

**AFFORDABLE STROBES
THAT GIVE A LOT OF
BANG FOR THE BUCK!**

- F-6TTL is rated 165'. GN of 32' at 100 ISO. Includes 15mm diffuser.
- F-3TTL is rated 180'. GN of 22' at 100 ISO. Includes 15mm diffuser.
- Morris Slave flash is the ideal flash for your fill, accent, side, or back lighting needs.



ewa®-marine



This Ewa still camera housing is available for auto focus & manual focus 35mm SLR cameras with or without flashes, motordrives & other accessories, as well as several compact 35mm point-and-shoot models. Practical operating depth with Adventure Series housing is 90', with Master Series glove housings is 60' & 30' with all others.

HELIX® CAMERA & VIDEO

310 S. Racine Ave., Chicago, IL 60607

Helix accepts Visa, Mastercard, and Discover Card.
Prices & availability subject to change without notice.

**TO ORDER:
1.800.33HELIX**

INSIDE IL: 312.421.6000

FAX: 312.421.2804

<http://www.mastermall.com/helix>

If it goes underwater, we've got it!

A Complete Inventory Of Land
Cameras, Housings, Amphibious
Cameras, Camcorders,
Photo and Video Housings.



Nikonos RS



Sea & Sea CX-500



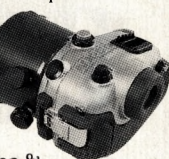
Nikonos V



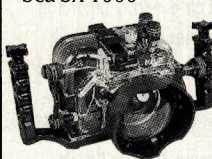
Aquatica 90SX



Sea &
Sea SX-1000



Sea &
Sea NX-50



Ikelite N90 Matrix



Amphibico Dive
Buddy III



Sea & Sea
Motor Marine Ilex



Sony
CCD-TR700



Sony Marine
Pack™ Housing

**Don't Wait
Another Minute.
Call Us For The
Best Prices and
Fastest Service.**

BERGER BROS.

CAMERA & VIDEO EXCHANGE
209 Broadway (Route 110),
Amityville, NY 11701
(800) 262-4160
Ph: (516) 264-4160
Fax: (516) 264-1007

© AD/SD 1995

SCUBAPRO SEAHAWK

(Continued from Page 24)

Scubapro Eco-weight. The non-ditchable weights help you float in a more vertical position on the surface and offer better weight distribution. The whole unit can be conveniently carried by the backpack's built-in, retractable handle.

The amount of accessories you can strap to or pocket within this BC seems almost limitless. Dangling from every end of webbing is a plastic D-ring; there are also four welded, stainless steel D-rings on the shoulder straps and two at the bottom of the harness. Altogether there are 12 ring attachment points. In addition, there are four buckles to accommodate either the optional, adjustable, padded crotch straps (providing additional support) or other accessories.

There are a total of six pockets on the BC—three on each side. Two small front pockets are pleated to expand and have touch-fastener closing flaps. The pleated rear pockets are larger and will hold back-up masks or other accessories. These are

also touch-fastener closing but have an additional strip on the bottom of the pocket to provide a low profile when not in use.

INTEGRATED WEIGHT SYSTEM

The SeaHawk's weight system incorporates the last two pockets (one on each side). This integrated system is perhaps

USER COMMENTS

Integrated weight system: "I am convinced this is definitely the way to go. Less equipment, less worry and more comfort. And, the weight release handles are in a more natural—thus safer—position for emergencies."

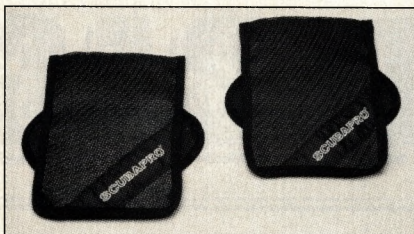
Comfort: "Although it looks unwieldy, the fit is snug, comfortable and streamlined. The ergonomic design provides incredible freedom of movement."

Hideaway handle: "An enlightened little detail that makes hauling this workhorse a breeze."

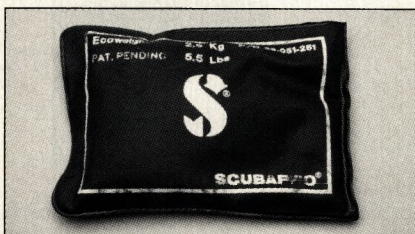
COMPARISON OF SCUBAPRO BUOYANCY COMPENSATORS

Model	SeaHawk	Classic	TechPac	ProPac	ComPac	Accent
Price	\$544	\$499	\$485	\$378	\$364	\$358
Material	840 denier nylon exterior, 420 denier nylon interior	Cordura nylon double neoprene coated	420 denier nylon, outer bag, polyurethane inner bag	420 denier nylon, single polyurethane coated	420 denier nylon packcloth, urethane coated	420 denier nylon packcloth, urethane coated
Shoulder Straps	Padded, adjustable, quick-release buckle	None	Nylon webbing harness	None	None	Padded, adjustable
Waistband	Adjustable, touch-fastener cummerbund and nylon webbing quick-release strap	Adjustable, touch-fastener cummerbund	Nylon webbing strap with buckle	Adjustable, touch-fastener cummerbund	Adjustable, touch-fastener cummerbund	Adjustable, touch-fastener cummerbund
Inflator	Two options: Balanced Power Inflator (\$80) or AIR 2 (\$214)	Two options: Balanced Power Inflator (\$80) or AIR 2 (\$214)	Two options: Balanced Power Inflator (\$80) or AIR 2 (\$214)	Two options: Balanced Power Inflator (\$80) or AIR 2 (\$214)	Two options: Balanced Power Inflator (\$80) or AIR 2 (\$214)	Two options: Balanced Power Inflator (\$80) or AIR 2 (\$214)
Overpressure/Dump Valves	Two, one at shoulder, one at bottom	Two, one at shoulder, one at bottom	Two, one at shoulder, one at bottom	Two, one at shoulder, one at bottom	Two, one at shoulder, one at bottom	Two, one at shoulder, one at bottom
Pockets	Three per side: two expandable, touch-fastener closing, one zippered integrated weight pocket	Two large, self-draining with zippered key pockets	Two expandable, touch-fastener closing	Two large, self-draining	Two large, self-draining with zippered key pockets	Two large, self-draining with zippered key pockets
Backpack	Hard, with Super Cinch 2 tank band	Padded, rigid w/Super Cinch 2 tank band	Hard, with Super Cinch 2 tank band	Padded, rigid w/Super Cinch 2 tank band	Mini, padded w/Super Cinch 2 tank band	Mini, padded w/Super Cinch 2 tank band
Sizes/Lift (pounds)	S/32 or 48** M/48 or 72** L/48 or 72** XL/48 or 72**	XXS/24 XS/32 S/38 M/49 L/62 XL/80	M/39.5 L/48.5 XL/61.5	XXS/19 XS/22 S/25 M/31 L/38 XL/45	XS/22 S/24 M/26 L/40	XS/21 S/27 M/33 L/40 XL/53
Colors	Black	Black/blue/gray Black/gray, Black/pink/purple, Black/ neon yellow/purple	Black/neon yellow	Black/dark blue Black/yellow/purple, Black/pink/purple	Black/blue Black/pink/purple	Black/blue Blue/lime Pink/purple, Neon yellow/purple
Comments	Top of the line, technical BC that is loaded with features for a comfortable, tailored fit. Can be fitted with a double tank band.	Top of the line jacket, loaded with features. Seams handglued/bonded using Scubapro's Finseal process. Double coated materials.	Only Stabilizing Jacket with double bag design and adjustable nylon webbing harness. Can be fitted with CO ₂ inflator and double tank band.	Many of the same features as the Classic at an economical price. Includes single bladder, internal air-flow dynamics and elastic chest strap.	Uniquely designed for both cold or warm water use. Ideal for travel, can be packed in a small space. Completely padded for comfort.	Compact, streamlined, fully padded BC with adjustable shoulders. Ideal for travel.

**Extra charge



Counterweight pockets (above) can be added to the tank band. Scubapro's 5.5 pound Eco-weights (below) are used for the pockets and the integrated weight system.



the most enticing thing about the BC. It provides streamlined simplicity, freedom of movement and superior comfort. The large, 10 by 6 inch zippered pockets will hold up to two, 5.5 pound Eco-weights (2.2 pound weights are also available), which can be ditched in an emergency. Scubapro's ecologically safe weights contain lead shot that is double sealed in heavy plastic bags. A rip-cord style release mechanism lets you drop the weights.

POWER INFLATORS

Scubapro is all about personal preference. That is why its BCs are sold without an inflator mechanism—you can choose the one that suits your needs. Scubapro offers two power inflators: the AIR 2 (add \$214 to the price of the BC) and the Balanced Power Inflator (\$80). A touch-faster retainer holds the oral inflator hose close to the body and there is a signal whistle attached for surface emergencies. Both power inflators have large distinct buttons that control inflation and deflation and can be used to manually inflate and deflate the BC. The AIR 2 is especially high tech. It functions as an extra second stage, eliminating the need for an octopus.

CONCLUSION

Divers employ an incredible amount of gear and precautions before plunging into the foreign environment of the ocean. The deeper, longer and more advanced dives demand gear that is safe, dependable and personalized. Scubapro, having invented the jacketstyle BC in 1977, has applied its years of experience and research to bring these elements to the SeaHawk.

The BC is available in any color you want—as long as it's black—for \$544. To take your first flight into the depths with the SeaHawk you'll need to find your nearest dealer. Contact Scubapro at 1326 Willow Road, Sturtevant, Wisconsin 53177; (800) GO-SCUBA.

ADORAMA

42 West 18th Street • New York, NY 10011

ORDER DEPT. MON.-THURS. 9-9:30, FRI. 9-1:45, SUN. 9:30-6 PM EST.
CUSTOMER RELATIONS (212) 741-0466 Mon.-Thurs. 9-7pm Sun. 11-2pm EST

Nikonos RS-Call

RS LENSES AND ACCESSORIES
New 13/2.8 Fisheye Call
28/2.8 Call 50/2.8 Call
20-35 Call 58-104 Call
Double Bracket 219.95
Extension Arm 189.95
O Ring RS14.95 Dbl. Cord 149.

NIKONOS-V

Nikonos V 579.95
Nikonos V w/35/2.5 739.95
New Aqua Lens f/Nikon Call
15/2.8 UW 1559; 28/3.5 UW 369
20/2.8 UW 729; 35/2.5 UW 167
80/4 UW 369
28mm UW Finder 17.95
35 & 80mm UW Finder 19.95
DF-10 Finder for 80mm 84.95
(Above Water) 184.95
DF-11 234.95 DF-12 Call
SB 105 Complete 439.95
SB 105 Flash Head 49.95
TTL Sync Cord (Repl) 49.95
Arm Joint (Repl) 49.95
(SU101) Sensor Unit f/SB102 49.95
Double TTL Sync Cord 149.95
Open water sync cord set double 329.95
Double Bracket 159.95
Dbl Bracket Set f/SB105/32 329.95
Ext Arm Set f/SB105/32 149.95
Close-Up Kit w/o case 209.95
Lens Hood & Filter Holder 7.95
Original Nikonos Case 49.95
O-Ring Set 10.95

ACCES. FOR NIKONOS

Ikelite Opt Tube Set 104.95
Ikelite Optical Viewfinder 119.95
TECHNICAL LIGHTING ARMS
and Accessories f/Nikonos Call

UNDERWATER ACC.

Sekonic L164C Meter 259.95
Morris UW Slave Flash 59.95
SEA & SEA NIKONOS
ACCES

12/3.5 Fisheye (167°) Call
Finder f/12mm F.E. Call
15/3.5 Call
High eyepoint Viewfinder Call
20/3.5 w/CS Call
16/5.6 Conv Lens Call
Optical Viewfinder Call
YS-50 TTL w/Arm & Tray Call
YS120 TTL Strobe Call
YS300 TTL Strobe Call
Ext Tubes Call

UR PRO

UW COLOR CORRECTION FILTERS
IN STOCK

INSTRUCTIONAL VIDEO TAPES

Approved by NIKON

Basic UW Photography with a Nikonos V
Complete, step by step instruction from assembly and testing of the system to advanced great results underwater right away. #VIBUP 24.95
Advanced UW Wide Angle Photography with Nikonos #VIAUPW 29.95

Advanced UW Macro Photography #VIAUPM 29.95

CATHY CHURCH: Photo Clinic
Instructional video explains the Cathy Church technique of underwater photography. Find out how to get brilliant blues and vibrant colors.
54 minutes #VICPC
Special Purchase 19.95

SHIPPING INSTRUCTIONS
We now accept Discover Card. Personal checks welcome, will ship without delay. Name must be imprinted on check, also include address, phone and a copy of major credit card or driver's license for reference. Shipping, handling and insurance additional. 14 day money back guarantee less shipping, with packing and blank warranty card, except film and paper. We ship UPS. Some items special order. All orders are subject to acceptance and verification. Products in this ad are supplied with USA or Adorama's own exclusive warranty at Adorama's option. Copies are available upon written request. Products not accompanied by manufacturer's warranty are not eligible for rebates offered by manufacturer D.C.A. Second hand dealer's license #802862. NYCDCA# 895591 Not responsible for typographical errors. Pictures are for illustration purposes only and may not be exact.

Prices effective till January 3, 1996

SONY

MARINE VIDEO PACKS

MPK-TRA-2 Housing Call
New MPK-TRB-Marine Pack Call
Sports Pack Series Call
HVL-80DA Video Light Call
We carry all current 8mm, VHS, VHS-C and VHS-Super camcorders.
Please Call For Prices

SEA&SEA

Motor Marine MX-10 Call
MX-10 w/external flash Kit Call
20mm Converter Lens f/MX-10 Call
Macro lens f/MX-10 Call
UW Filter f/200mm Lens 74.95



New MOTOR MARINE II/EX

w/TTL Flash capability & DX Film Coding, 1/125 sync power wind & rewind.
Motor Marine II EX Kit Call
with Y550 TTL flash Call
UR-Pro UW Filter f/MM II 44.95
16mm Conv. lens Call
20mm Conv. lens Call Macro lens (1:3) Call
Macro lens f/2 Call Lens Caddy Call
YS-50 TTL-II Kit Call
YS-20 Flash Call
Sea Arm 2 Long #2700 104.95
Bulk Head Conn. f/MM-I 9.95

SX-1000

SX-1000 Camera with UW Housing - Complete Pkg. Call
UR-Pro UW Filter f/MM II 44.95
16mm Conv. lens Call
20mm Conv. lens Call Macro lens (1:3) Call
Macro lens f/2 Call Lens Caddy Call
YS-50 TTL-II Kit Call
YS-20 Flash Call
Sea Arm 2 Long #2700 104.95
Bulk Head Conn. f/MM-I 9.95

New UW Housing

NX-50 Housing f/Nikon N50 Call
NX-500 Hsng. f/Canon Rebel Call

AQUA VISION HOUSINGS

New Aquatica f/N90 Elec. Call
Aquatica f/Nikon 8008 799.95
Aquatica f/Nikon F4 1299.95
New Aluminum Housing f/most Sony TR Cameras Call

STROMM

STROMM ONE HOUSING

* Features: finger tip control of your Nikon N90/8008, Canon EOS, Maxum. Comes with Nikonos TTL strobe Connector Call

TIFFEN

UW FILTERS

UW O-2" & 2-7" Strobe Filter 9.95

#394652 #150 Kit 709.95
#394646/47 Ai/Ain Kit 499.95
#394657 #300 Kit 879.95
#394643 #50 Kit w/C-Light, Bracket & Strobe Arm II 364.95

DIVING LIGHTS

Sata-Lite Straight Cord 36.95
Sata-Lite Coiled Cord 41.95
Mini C Mark 45.00
R.C.D. 37.95
Mini C Halogen w/Batts 23.95
Maxi C Halogen w/Batts 32.95
Modular H Lite 34.95
Modular Super Lite 154.95
Other Ikelite Accs Call

CHARGE ORDERS: Call TOLL FREE

7 days, 24 hours

1-800-825-6690

\$15 minimum

(American Express, Master Card, Visa, Diners Club)

Add \$1 per case/binder for postage and handling.

Outside USA \$2.50 per case/binder. (U.S. funds only). PA residents add 7% sales tax.

MAIL ORDERS: Make checks or money orders (in U.S. funds) payable to Jesse Jones Industries and send to:

Skin Diver, Jesse Jones Industries, Dept. PET-SD

499 East Erie Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19134

Please print clearly and provide your return address with ZIP CODE (no P.O. boxes please). Allow 4 - 6 weeks for delivery.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

ORDER TOLL FREE

800-888-4939

US and CANADA

Fax #212-463-7223

ORDERS & INFO

(212) 741-0052

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

AMPHIBICO

DIVE BUDDY SERIES

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

Call

ewa-marine

DIVER'S GEAR BAG

Robert L. Straight
• HOUSTON •



Catalog \$3.00

Exclusive marine jewelry in gold and silver by renowned wildlife artist Robert L. Straight. (713) 643-4051 8439 Barkley Dr. Houston TX 77017 rlstra@neosoft.com or <http://www.stw.com/rls/rls.htm>

Don't get lost at sea! Dive-Alert emits a loud blast heard up to a mile away!

Ask your dive shop for

Dive-Alert

Ideations, P.O. Box 99575, Seattle, WA 98199
800-275-4332 • FAX 206-285-6897
U.S. and Foreign Patents

circle #118 on Reader Service Card

TREASURE JEWELRY



Pendant Shown
75% of
Actual Size

Piece of Eight Pendant
Atocha Silver, w/14KT Gold Overlay Bezel
#A9044 - \$59.95

OWN A PIECE OF HISTORY!

A Kings Ransom of Beautiful and Unique Jewelry From Lost Treasure Galleons, including Mel Fisher's 1622 "Nuestra Senora De Atocha" Is Now Available!

Call today for our free TREASURE CATALOG!

1-800-621-2440

RESORT GRAPHICS, INC.
Maritime Art & Collectables

447 Carson Avenue
Atlantic City, NJ 08401
609-348-5826 FAX: 609-344-3052

Visa/Mastercard/Amex/Check/M.O. Add \$4.50 for S&H. 2-4 Day Rush \$8.50 Foreign delivery, call or fax. N.J. Res. add 6% sales tax. Allow 14-21 Days delivery. All Orders Pd. By Ck. held 10 days. Certificate of Authenticity Included. **Satisfaction Guaranteed.**

circle #43 on Reader Service Card

METAL DETECTORS

Find treasure on land or
250 feet underwater.



Free catalog and dealer list
1-800-M-SCOPE-1

FISHER M-SCOPE

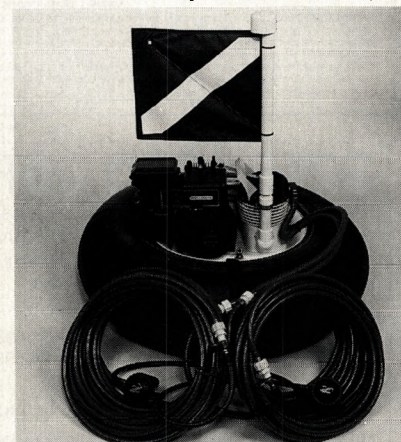
FISHER RESEARCH LABORATORY
Dept. SD, 200 W. Willmott Rd.
Los Banos, CA 93635

circle #81 on Reader Service Card

DIVE ALL DAY

WITH **SUPER SNORKEL**

Enjoy real diving freedom with an unlimited air supply! It's compact and lightweight. You can take it to your favorite dive spots.



Call Or Write For Information On All Models
INNOVATIVE DESIGNS, INC.
3785 Alt. 19 N. Suite S / Palm Harbor, FL 34683
(813) 934-4619

FREE EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE CALL THE NIKONOS PROFESSIONAL!

This HOTLINE is just for you, staffed 10 AM-9PM (Central Time) Monday thru Friday, to answer any Nikonos questions or to help you and your Nikonos out of an EMERGENCY. Just call us from anywhere in the world. Our assistance is always FREE...



Bob Warkentin's
**SOUTHERN NIKONOS
SERVICE CENTER, INC.**
9459 Kempwood
Houston, Texas 77080
(713) 462-5436
Fax: (713) 462-5449

Goal #1 "human mistake" Education

Nikonos Workshop articles returned with your equipment to explain (& try to prevent) your "human mistakes" (Whether you want it or not)

Goal #2 Equipment Servicing

• SOUTHERN NIKONOS services & repairs ALL Nikonos Products (old or new). **Nothing else!** • Over 200,000 Nikonos parts in inventory to provide a 2-3 work day turn-around. • All replaced parts are returned as "trophy" of your mistakes for your "education". (Whether you want them or not)

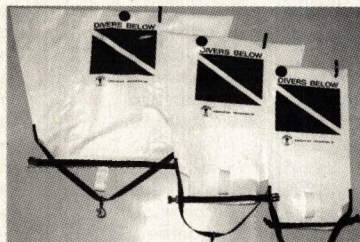
Your Nikonos ain't just a land camera, it's DIVE EQUIPMENT! So remember, "When it's time to service your regulator, it's time to service your Nikonos!!"

The International Service World of
SOUTHERN NIKONOS
We're as close as your post office.

circle #103 on Reader Service Card

IT IS THE LITTLE THINGS THAT MAKE DIVING EVEN MORE FUN!

THE QUAD BAG™



THE QUAD BAG™ by **SUBSALVE USA** is a multi-purpose bag. It can be used as a **LIFT BAG**, a **DRY BAG**, a **DIVE FLAG**, or an **UP-LINE FLOAT** on a dive reel. Available in: 50 lb., 100 lb., and 200 lb. sizes. Complete with a brass snap, inflation - deflation valve, a velcro tie, and rolls up small enough to take on every dive. Whether you are a tech diver, wreck diver, or a newly certified diver, **THE QUAD BAG™** is a must for you! (U.S. PAT. #D362,817)

SUBSALVE USA manufactures a full line of underwater lift bags ranging from 50 lbs. - 70,000 lbs. of lift capacity in enclosed and open end designs.

Look for our **COMBO BAG**. A divers gear bag with a built in dry bag. Perfectly sized to fit and protect your dry suit and dry suit underwear.

Also look for the **SUBSALVE USA** line of heavy-duty gear bags and dry bags.



SUBSALVE USA
P.O. Box 9307 - Providence, RI 02940
(401) 467-6962 • (800) 466-6962
Fax: (401) 521-6962

circle #152 on Reader Service Card

**BE
HERE**

**WHEN DIVERS LOOK
FOR ACCESSORIES AND
INTERESTING LITTLE
"EXTRAS" THAT MAKE
DIVING MORE
ENJOYABLE AND SAFER.
PLACE YOUR AD IN
DIVER'S GEARBAG.
PHONE: (213) 782-2760
FAX: (213) 782-2556**

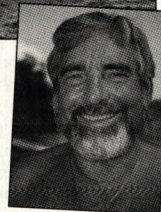
Bill Beard... Moves!

TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHY
BY GERI MURPHY

Bill and Nadine Beard, owners and operators of Diving Safaris de Costa Rica, have relocated their dive operation to Hotel La Costa in the Guanacaste Region of Costa Rica's northwest Pacific coast. The company name has also been changed to Bill Beard's Diving Safaris.



Bill Beard, owner of Bill Beard's Diving Safaris.



Bill Beard's is Costa Rica's oldest and largest land-based dive operation, originally established in 1981. Operating three large, fully shaded boats, it can handle up to 50 divers a day without crowding. Each boat can carry 10 to 16 divers and is fully equipped with safety equipment and emergency oxygen. Daily trips are made to some 30 to 40 dive sites in the Gulf of Papagayo, as well as to the Bat and Catalina Islands.

Originally from Florida, Bill Beard began free diving in 1945 and participated in the World Spearfishing Competition, held in the Dominican Republic. He began scuba diving in 1954 and has been a PADI instructor for 20 years. He is also a fully licensed U.S. Coast Guard captain and conducts many of the daily dive trips himself.

Bill moved to Costa Rica in 1970 and has spent the past 18 years diving the reefs and pinnacles along the Guanacaste coastline. The company is headquartered in Hotel La Costa.

For more information about Bill Beard's Diving Safaris and its La Costa dive packages, contact Bill Beard's Diving Safaris, P.O. Box 121-5019, Playas del Coco, Guanacaste, Costa Rica; phone 011-506-670-0012, fax 011-506-670-0495. The U.S. office is at 600 Posen Court, N.E., Palm Bay, FL 32905; (407) 724-5474; fax (407) 768-1443. 🐠

THE ULTIMATE DIVE

Maui, Hawaii

★ Our Success is a direct result of customer satisfaction.

★ First time customers soon realize that we take their "best interest" to heart.

★ Returning divers soon realize the vast extent of our local knowledge, as day after day we visit different and unique locations.

★ All of our customers know we go out of our way to afford an experience worth much more than the cost of the charter.

★ Let's Go Diving!

with

Ed Robinson's DIVING ADVENTURES

FREE INFORMATION PACKAGE

**1-800-635-1273
Ph: (808) 879-3584**

FLORIDA KEYS DIVE QUIZ

QUESTION?

What do 50 different reefs, cutter wreck, 1 Moray City, 1 Eagle, 1 Buddha and an Aquanauts "hangout" all have in common?

ANSWER!

All are a few of the unique dive sites within easy reach of...

Lady Cyana Divers!



Dive over 50 different reef sites, hang out with our 5 resident green morays at Davis Ledge, explore a 327 ft. Coast Guard Cutter **DUANE**, fly across the **EAGLE**-a 287 ft. freighter, meditate next to our underwater Buddha or dive next to our Aquanauts habitat at 60 feet.

Let Lady Cyana be your answer to the best possible

Florida Keys Dive Vacation!

Local # 305-664-8757

800-221-8717

**Dive/lodging pkgs
E-mail: ladycyana@aol.com**

© SD/AD 1995

SKIN DIVER JANUARY 1996 127



COZUMEL

resort hotel & beach club

Specially designed for divers.
Have a memorable experience
diving with DEL MAR AQUATICS,
the most complete &
established dive operator.

Special Dive Packages from \$218

per person including
4 days/3 nights, 2 boat dives,
Offer valid Jan. 3-April 9, 1996

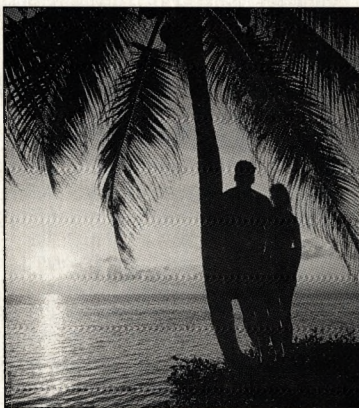
CALL NOW!!
1-800-877-4383

© SD/AD 1995

circle #163 on Reader Service Card

COMING IN THE
FEBRUARY ISSUE

Visit the
Magnificent
and Mysterious
World of Belize



featuring
Turneffe Island Lodge

ADVERTISER DIRECTORY

ADVERTISER	PAGE NUMBER	ADVERTISER	PAGE NUMBER	ADVERTISER	PAGE NUMBER
ACTIONDIVE	110	DIVERS ACADEMY	62	PARROTS LANDING	41
ADORAMA	125	DIVERS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY	65	PETER HUGHES DIVING	19
ADVENTURE EXPRESS	107	DIVERS UNLIMITED	52	PETER HUGHES DIVING	21
AGGRESSOR FLEET	36	DIVI FLAMINGO BEACH RESORT	55	PLAYA MIGUEL	109
AIR FIJI	84	DIVI RESORTS	55	PLAZA RESORT	96
ALL AMERICAN DIVERS	112	DIVI TIARA BEACH RESORT	55	POSADA DEL SOL	112
ALMOND BEACH HIDEAWAYS	108	DIXIE DIVERS	101	POSEIDON VENTURES	67
ANTHIS USA	100	DON FOSTER'S/DIVE CAYMAN	23	PRINCESS BEACH RESORT	21
ANTHONY'S KEY RESORT	11	EASTERN ACADEMY/SCUBA EDUCATION	95	PRINCESS DIVERS	21
AQUATIC ADVENTURES	108	ED ROBINSON'S DIVING ADVENTURES	127	PUERTO RICO TOURISM	17
AQUA-NUTS DIVE SHOP	103	EMERALD VISION & SOUND	120	RAINBOW REEF DIVERS	82
B & H PHOTO-VIDEO	129	FANTASEA DIVERS	107	RED SAIL SPORTS	74
BAHAMA DIVERS LTD	95	FANTASY ISLAND BEACH RESORT	43	REEF & RAINFOREST	105
BAHIA TOURS	11	FIJI FORBES LAUCALA	79	RESORT GRAPHICS	126
BARBACHANO TRAVEL SERVICE	70	FIJI TOURISM	80	RIDING ROCK INN	68
BASKIN IN THE SUN	110	FIJI TOURISM	85	ROATAN CHARTERS	109
BAUER COMPRESSORS	62	FISHER RESEARCH LAB	126	ROBERT L STRAIGHT	126
BAYMAN BAY CLUB	64	FLORIDA DIVING INSTITUTE	97	RON GORDON WATCH REPAIR	108
BELIZE TOURISM	48	GALAPAGO INN	96	SAM MC COY'S DIVING LODGE	103
BELIZE TOURISM	49	GARDEN ISLAND RESORT	82	SAND DOLLAR CONDOMINIUM RESORT	26
BELIZE TOURISM	53	GO DIVING	106	SCUBA SCHOOLS INTERNATIONAL	54
BELIZE UNDERSEA ADVENTURES	51	GRAND CAYMAN BEACHFRONT HOME	110	SCUBAPRO	10*
BERGER BROTHERS CAMERA & VIDEO	124	GRAND CLUB SOL CARIBE COZUMEL	111	SEA FEVER	26
BERRY SCUBA	122	GREAT DESTINATIONS	84	SEAQUEST	C2
BILIKIKI CRUISES	64	GREAT SOUTHERN ISLAND ADVENT	106	SEE & SEA TRAVEL SERVICE	86
BIMINI UNDERSEA ADVENTURES	110	HALL'S DIVING CENTER	105	SILENT WORLD DIVE CENTER	104
BLACKBEARD'S CRUISES	63	HARBOUR VILLAGE BEACH RESORT	68	SOLMAR SUITES	94
BOB SOTO'S DIVING	26*	HAWAIIAN DIVERS	112	SOLMAR V	94
BONAIRE SUNSET RESORTS	89	HELIX CAMERA & VIDEO	123	SOUTH EAST DIVING INSTITUTE	101
BRAC AQUATICS	105	HOTEL SOLMAR	94	SOUTHERN NIKONOS SERVICE CENTER	126
BRAC CARIBBEAN BEACH VILLAGE	110	IDEATIONS/DIVE ALERT	126	SOUTHPOINT DIVERS	101
BRAC REEF BEACH RESORT	38	IKELITE	25	STUART COVE'S DIVE SOUTH OCEAN	59
BRITISH COLONIAL BEACH RESORT	102	INNOVATIVE DESIGNS	126	SUBSALVE USA	127
BROADREACH	108	INT'L COMMERCIAL DIVING INSTITUTE	69	SUNFLOWER AIRLINES	82
BROWNIE'S THIRD LUNG	100	ISLAND DREAMS	104	SUNFLOWER AIRLINES	84
BUDDY DIVE RESORT	111	JACKIE'S WATERSPORTS	106	SUNSET HOUSE	26*
CAPTAIN BILLY'S KEY WEST DIVER	108	JW FISHERS	111	SUNSHINE SPORTS	129
CAPTAIN DON'S HABITAT	67	LADY CYANA DIVERS	127	TORTUGA DIVERS	112
CAPTAIN SLATES	46	LAMMER LAW	97	TREASURE ISLAND DIVERS	107
CARADONNA TOURS	89	LEISURE PRO	118	TRIMARINE INC.	97
CARIB INN	70	LITTLE CAYMAN BEACH RESORT	38	TRINIDAD & TOBAGO TOURISM	39
CATHY CHURCH SUNSET U/W PHOTO	43	MANTA RAY TOURS OF HAWAII	100	TROPICAL ADVENTURES	83
CAYMAN DIVING LODGE	104	MARES	C3	TROPICAL ADVENTURES	103
CENTRAL SKINDIVERS	121	MIKE BALL DIVE EXPEDITIONS	47	TROPICAL CONCEPTS	102
CITIZEN WATCHES	15	MR DIVER INCORPORATED	120	TROPICAL TOURS	112
CLUB MED	7	NASSAU SCUBA CENTRE	50	TURNEFFE ISLAND LODGE	108
COCO VIEW RESORT	109	NAUI CAREER INSTITUTE	105	ULTIMATE DIVE TRAVEL	82
COCONUT HARBOUR	94	NEKTON DIVING CRUISES	33	UTILA LODGE	109
CUAN LAW	97	OCEAN CORPORATION	32	VIKING STARSHIP	66
DEL MAR AQUATICS	128	OCEAN DIVERS	90	VUNA REEF DIVERS	82
DIVE ABACO	110	OCEAN DIVERS	91	WALKER'S CAY	50
DIVE INN/SLEEP INN	106	OCEAN GUIDE	30	XANADU UNDERSEA ADVENTURES	51
DIVE KEY LARGO	71	PACTOURS INCORPORATED	65	YAP DIVERS	71
DIVE TEAM HAWAII	69	PADI	C4		
DIVE USA	66	PARADISE VILLAS	107		

*INSERT FOLLOWS PAGE INDICATED

If you're moving . . . don't miss out on a single issue of SKIN DIVER.

OLD ADDRESS (Please write your old address exactly as imprinted on the front cover.)

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State/ZIP _____

NEW ADDRESS

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State/ZIP _____

For questions or problems regarding your subscription, please call our toll free number or write to the address below. Call 1-(800)-800-3487. For subscription inquiries outside the U.S., please call 1-(303)-678-0354.

For New / Renewal Subscription Orders

☐ New subscription ☐ Renewal order
☐ Payment enclosed ☐ Bill me (U.S. & Canada only)

**1 year (12 issues) of
SKIN DIVER only \$21.94**

For renewal orders, please write your address in the old address section above. The subscription price quoted above is good in the U.S. only. For all foreign subscriptions, please add the following amount (in U.S. funds) to cover surface mail postage: Canada add \$12.98 (price includes GST). All other foreign add \$13.00. Please allow 4-8 weeks for your first issue to be mailed.

Mail to: SKIN DIVER, P.O. Box 52595, Boulder, CO 80322-2595

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP,
MANAGEMENT, AND CIRCULATION
(Required by 39 U.S.C. 3685)

- Publication Title: Skin Diver
- Publication No. 0037-6345
- Filing Date: 09-29-95
- Issue Frequency: Monthly
- No. of issues published annually: 12
- Annual subscription price: \$19.94
- Complete mailing address of known office of publication: 6420 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90048-5515, Los Angeles County.
- Complete mailing address of headquarters or general business offices of publisher: 6420 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90048, Los Angeles County.
- Full names and complete mailing addresses of publisher, editor, and managing editor: Publisher: Paul Tzimoulis, 6420 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90048. Editor: Bill Gleason, 6420 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90048. Managing Editor: Lee Alexander, 6420 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90048.
- Owner: Petersen Publishing Company, 6420 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90048; Robert E. Petersen, 6420 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90048
- Known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities: None
- For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at special rates. The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purpose (check one)
 - ☐ Has not changed during preceding 12 months.
 - ☐ Has changed during preceding 12 months.
- Publication Name: Skin Diver
- Issue date for circulation data below: 08/95
- Extent and nature of circulation:

Actual No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 months	Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 months	Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
---	--	---

a. Total no. copies	316,400	327,033
b. Paid and/or requested circulation		
1. Sales through dealers and carriers, street vendors, and counter sales	27,500	35,000
2. Paid or requested mail subscriptions	204,485	213,876
c. Total paid and/or requested circulation	231,985	248,876
d. Free distribution by mail	2,708	2,907
e. Free distribution outside the mail	0	0
f. Total Free distribution	2,708	2,907
g. Total distribution	234,693	251,783
h. Copies not distributed:		
1. Office use, leftovers, spoiled	4,440	3,742
2. Return from News Agents	77,267	71,508
i. Total	316,400	327,033

Percent paid and/or requested circulation98.85% 98.85%

16. This statement of ownership will be printed in the January, 1996 issue of this publication.

☐ Check box if not required to publish.

17. Signature and Title of editor, publisher, business manager, or owner,

9/28/95 Nigel P. Heaton V.P.,
Date Circulation Marketing Development

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions and/or civil sanctions.

BH
PHOTO-VIDEO

The Professional's Source.

212 444-6649

FAX: 212 242-1400

119 WEST 17TH STREET • NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10011

To Order-Call Toll Free

1-800-947-9979

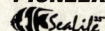


NIKONOS



ACCESSORIES FOR NIKONOS
Ikelle Ext. Tube Set #4903. 99.95
SEA & SEA
NEW! 12/3.5 FisheyeCALL
NEW! Viewfinder for aboveCALL
15x5.5CALL 20/3.5CALL
16mm Conversion Lens 1/35mmCALL
High Eyepoint Viewfinder
1/15, 16, 20mmCALL
0.45xCALL
EXTENSION TUBES W/FRAMER
35mm 1:1CALL 35mm 1:2CALL
35mm 1:3CALL 28mm 1:2CALL
YS-50 TTL w/arm & trayCALL
New! YS-300 TTL w/arm & baseCALL
SCUBA VIDEO TAPES
Cathy Church Instructional29.95
Dive Pennekamp 19.95 Dive Florida 29.95
Dive British Virgin Islands29.95
WORLD OF J. COUSTEAU
Pioneer of the Sea24.95
Dragons of the Galapagos19.95
SEA&SEA
MX-10 CameraCALL
MX-10 Kit w/YS-40 FlashCALL
20mm lens MX-10CALL
Motor Marine II CameraCALL
Hard Case 1/XX-10
& Motor Marine II12.95
Motor Marine II Kit w/YS-50 FlashCALL
16mm LENS MM IICALL
20mm MM IICALL
Optical Viewfinder #S0140CALL
High Eyepoint Finder #S0150CALL
Macro Lens 1.3CALL Macro Lens 1.2CALL
YS-50 TTL II Flash KitCALL
NEW! Complete Guide to Sea & Sea22.95
PELICAN
Black/Silver/Orange or Yellow
Inside Dimensions w/Team Dividers
1200 (9 1/2"x7 1/4") 31.50
1300 (9 1/2"x8 1/4") 34.95
1400 (12 1/2"x9 1/2") 53.50 77.95
1450 (15 1/2"x10 1/2") 68.95 89.95
1500 (17 1/2"x11 1/2") 85.95 99.95
1550 (18 1/2"x12 1/2") 94.50 119.95
1550 (19 1/2"x12 1/2") 99.95 136.95
1600 (22 1/2"x17 1/2") 118.95 154.95
1650 (29 1/2"x21 1/2") 144.95 189.95
1750 (50"x31 1/2") 155.50
Available in black, grey, yellow
*Black Only. Other Colors Call
DOCKCILL
WATERTIGHT CASES
Seal Tight Lg 17 1/2"x12 1/4"59.95
Seal Tight Ex Lg 18 1/2"x14 1/4"69.95
Available in Gray or Black
Minimum Shipping USA (Except AK & HI) \$7.00 up to 3 lbs. Add \$6.00 for each additional lb. For ins. add 40¢ per \$100. Prices valid till January 20, subject to supplier prices. ©1996 BH Photo-Video. Not responsible for typographical errors.

PIONEER



35mm Automatic Dive Camera
• Fully Automatic
• Motor Driven Film Advance
• U/W Color Correction Flash
• "Deep Dive" switch
• Takes pictures U/W or on land
• Operational to 60 ft. depth
\$99.95

AQUA VISION SYSTEMS

Housing for Nikon N-90CALL
Housing for Nikon F4-S & F3-HPCALL
Housing for VideoCALL
WE ARE A FULL STOCK DEALER

AQUALENS Dome Port

Allows land lens to be coupled to Nikonos II, III, IV, V. Depth rating to 330'CALL



CAMERA HOUSING

For Most SLR's AF469.95
AquaShot54.95

FLASHES

4043 Substrobe 50184.95
4046 Substrobe AI309.00
4047 Substrobe AII309.95
4050 Substrobe 150 Nicad509.00
New! Substrobe 300 Nicad619.95

COMPASSES

2500 PRO Compass Wrist29.95
2600 PRO-S Compass Wrist42.95

SINGH-R FILTERS

UNDERWATER ACCESSORIES
CALL
Tritons Filter Pouch6.50

ewa-marine



UA Housing169.95
UA-X Housing184.95
U-F Camera and Winder114.95
U-F-X Camera w/small Zoom & Shoe Flash130.95
UFX-P Camera w/Motor Drive & Flash119.95
U-FPN Camera w/Large Motor & Lens (72mm) Dia139.95
U-FZL Camera w/Long Zoom130.95
For Medium Format Camera Call
U-M Compact Auto Focus Camera64.95
Hurricane Hood59.95
U-VVL For Sharp Viewcam224.95
U-VST For Sony TR5, 6, 7224.95
U-VML For JVC compact219.95
U-VPL For Sony FX-700 Series224.95
Price includes camera adapter rings

ikelite



STROBE PACKAGES FOR NIKONOS

NEW! 3943.43 Substrobe 50" Kit. 314.95
NEW! 3946.43 Substrobe 50" Kit. 369.00
3946.46 Substrobe AI Kit495.00
3946.47 Substrobe AII Kit509.00
3946.52 150 Nicad Kit709.00
3946.57 Substrobe 300 Kit899.00

VIDEO HOUSINGS

For Sony TR-Series (Specify)639.95
For Sony FX Series (Specify)639.95
For Sony VX-31049.95

DIVE LIGHTS

RCD Halogen39.95
Mini C-Light Halogen (Spec.Color)23.95
Modular Super Light (nicad)159.95
Modular Video Lite (nicad)214.95
Modular Video Lite 45 (nicad)214.95
4052 Charger for Video Lites36.95

UNDERWATER ACCESSORIES

CALL
Tritons Filter Pouch6.50

1-800-290-5622

Tel: (718) 437-4257

Fax: (718) 437-5136 - 24 Hr.

5104 12th Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11219



Special
Discounts
For Instructors
Call for details

MIX & MATCH
You may put together your own
package with any brands you wish.
Please ask

Best Prices On:

TUSA, MARES, DACOR,
SHERWOOD, SEAQUEST, OCEANIC,
SCUBA PRO, CRESSI, BEUCHAT,
U.S. DIVERS, WENOKA, U.K.,
DIVE RITE, IKELITE, ETC.

**We Ship
Nationwide &
Worldwide**

**HOLIDAY SPECIALS
25% OFF**

COMPUTER & GAUGES

• Aladin • Orca
• Sherwood
• U.S. Divers
• Tusa • Oceanic
• Citizen

MASK, FINS & SNORKELS

• Tusa
• Sherwood
• U.S. Divers
• Scuba Pro
• Mares • Dacor
• Oceanic
• Oceanmaster

BC'S

• Sherwood
• Tusa
• U.S. Divers
• Seaquest
• Dacor
• Mares

REGULATORS

• Sherwood
• U.S. Divers
• Mares • Tusa
• Beuchat • Dacor

**ALADIN DIVE COMPUTER
State Of The Art**

• Altitude • Temp • Interval Time
• Max Depth • Bottom Time
• No Fly • Log Book (8)
• Surface Interval • Deco Time, Etc.
• NO Decompression
• Self Diagnostic Mode • Functional
• Auto Altitude 10,000 Ft.
• Dep. 250 Ft. • Illuminated Disp.

ONLY
\$194.95

FREE
ORDER OUR LATEST
CATALOG, CALL OR
WRITE YOUR NAME
& ADDRESS TO US

3 MM Wet SuitCall
6.5 Wet Suit (Pleat, Padded, Dbl. Stitched, etc.) 142.95
New Polartec Suits (Available in all colors) 139.95
Lycra Skins49.95
Tusa Imprex boot - 5mmCall
Tusa Imprex Slippers 3mmCall
Neoprene Boots - 5mm w/Zipper 24.95
Neoprene Glove - 5mm w/Velcro 21.95
Tusa Warm Water GloveCall
Octopus w/Long Hose49.95

Combination Octopus Inflator System 114.95
Sherwood OctCall
Sherwood MinimusCall
Scuba Pro Air 2Call
Scuba Pro OctopusCall
Tusa Knives 800, 840Call
Wenoka Comfort Z-Lock Knife 47.95
Wenoka Mini Z-Lock Knife 32.95

SCUBA PACKAGE #101B

- New Tusa B.C. Bladderless, Back Pack Padded, Dual Bands, Low Profile to reduce Drag, 2 Lg. Pkts w/Drain, Balanced Power Inflator, Snug Fit.
- Sherwood Regulators, High Performance, Lightweight, Easy Breathing, No Resistance.
- Double Gauge 5000 PSI, Depth w/MDI
- Octopus lightweight & Long Hose
- Regulator Bag
- UK Light
- Save A Dive Kit

ONLY
\$479.95

Wenoka Micro Mini Knife22.95
Wenoka B.C. Knife22.95
Scuba Back Pack (2 front pockets) 56.95
Duffel Bag Large29.95
Mesh Bag Large19.95
Regulator Bag19.95
Padded Console Cover12.95
Wenoka Pro Exce/Wheels 124.95
Wenoka Super Pack/Wheels 69.95
Dive Lights all BrandsCall

MOST MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

circle #50 on Reader Service Card

Prior "Rescue Diver" Training and a School of Friendly Dolphins Help a Diver Out of a Bad Situation

BY RICK KEMP

I had been five months since my buddy and I had been diving. It was Thanksgiving weekend and we both had four days off. We quickly decided to go to Morehead City, North Carolina.

We planned to meet in the late afternoon on Thanksgiving Day. We'd drive straight through to Morehead City, about 10 hours away. We got to sleep around 2:30 am and were up at 6:30 am. The dive boat was only about two miles away and scheduled to leave at 7:00. We quickly put the gear into the truck and stopped by a local mini-market. We wolfed down some doughnuts, coffee and orange juice.

When we got to the boat the weather was poor—it was cold, raining and windy. The boat had only a captain, who was also the divemaster. There was just one other passenger on board, a divemaster from New York. As the waves buffeted the little dive boat, I remembered we had not taken any motion sickness pills. I handed two to my dive buddy and we washed them down with water.

Not too long after the boat was underway the excitement we had felt for two days was suddenly gone. It was very cold. Neither of us had brought anything that was even close to warm except our wetsuits. In the harbor, of course, the journey was rather smooth. Once we reached the open ocean, I knew we would be in for quite a ride.

The head winds and high seas stretched the normally pleasant one and one-half hour trip to at least two hours, maybe more. Finally, we found our dive site, a German U-boat. As soon as the boat stopped I got sick. The divemaster from New York saw this and was quickly off the boat and down under. My unfortunate behavior soon made my dive buddy ill as well. He joined me in my leeward action.

The captain told us it was OK if we did not want to dive. We could just lie there and rest. I figured I should get off the boat to feel better. However, over the past few months I'd put on a few pounds. My wetsuit didn't fit too well. I

managed, after a great struggle and lot of sweat, to squeeze into it. Only after I was geared up did I check to see if my dive computer was working. It was not.

It was time for me to get off the boat. My dive buddy was still lying down. I told him I'd hang on the tag line and wait for him. I went to the stern and got a giant boat throw entry from a passing wave.

Fortunately, I had the regulator in my mouth. I was held under for a few seconds by a series of passing waves. When



I finally surfaced, I quickly realized I was in trouble. The waves, wind and current were too much for me since I was weak from being ill. No sooner had my head cleared the surface, than I saw the floating ball at the end of the tag line shoot by. Moving rapidly away from the boat, I began to flail and panic. The captain yelled something at me but I was unable to hear him. Spitting out my regulator, I tried to yell back for help. Every time I opened my mouth it filled with water. I could feel my eyes bulging with terror. Spotting the dive boat again, I wondered why the captain wasn't doing something to help me. (Later I realized he could not just abandon the other diver.)

Finally, something clicked in me. Being a rescue diver who had gone through a rigorous course, I should and did know better than to panic. Dropping my weightbelt, I popped up level in the water and could breathe air again. Next, I found my regulator. Putting it in my mouth I began to get my breathing under control. My next priority was to figure out how to either get back

to the boat or let the captain know where I was. I remembered the best swimming position in these conditions. Rolling over on my back I began to kick with my fins. I had to kick really hard for a while.


Then a diver's fairy tale happened. I suddenly heard squeaking noises around me. Looking to my left side I spotted six dolphins no more than five feet from me. About this time, I reached the tag line. Rolling over and sticking my face in the water I looked for the dolphins. They were all around me. There were four larger ones I assumed were adults and two smaller ones I thought were youngsters. They appeared as fascinated with me as I was with them. Two adults stuck close to the kids. The other two adults would dive deep and reappear from unexpected directions. Often, the youngsters would come close to me, within arm's reach. Once they got that close, the adults would nudge them away.

Meanwhile, the captain had pulled me back to the boat with the tag line. I ran into Sea Nettles along the way but the sting was barely noticeable. I removed my gear on the deck of the boat, very carefully held onto the tag line and re-entered the water. I swam and played with the dolphins for 20 more minutes.

Later, the captain said it was not unusual to see dolphins here but it was the first time he had seen dolphins stay around a dive boat. He had also never seen dolphins be so playful with divers.

Eventually, I found out these were Atlantic Spotted Dolphins. It is thought that dolphins are a good sign, a sign of hope. I certainly believe this to be true.

I am very grateful for that day of diving. The mistakes made are obvious. I learned to get proper rest, take motion sickness medicine at the appropriate time, pay attention to weather conditions, check equipment, not dive when ill and among all else, never panic.

If miracles do happen, two occurred that day. I survived a dive that was doomed to failure and I had one of the ultimate highs—I dived with dolphins. 

SKIN DIVER VOL. 45 NO. 1

(ISSN 0037-6345) Published monthly by Petersen Publishing Company, 6420 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, California 90048-5515. Second Class postage paid at Los Angeles, CA and at additional mailing offices. Subscription rates for 1 year (12 issues): U.S., APO, FPO and U.S. Possessions \$19.94. Canada \$27.92 (price includes surface mail postage and GST-Reg. #R124683855). All other countries \$29.94. Subscription inquiries within the U.S. phone (800) 800-3487. Subscription inquiries outside the U.S. phone (303) 678-0354. CONTRIBUTIONS: Should be mailed to 6420 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, California 90048-5515. They must be accompanied by return postage and we assume no responsibility for

loss or damage thereto. Any material accepted is subject to such revision as is necessary in our sole discretion to meet the requirements of this publication. Upon publication, payment will be made at our current rate, which covers the author's and/or contributor's right, title and interest in and to the material mailed including but not limited to photos, drawings, charts, and designs, which shall be considered as text. The act of mailing a manuscript and/or material shall constitute an express warranty by the contributor that the material is original and in no way an infringement upon the rights of others. POSTMASTER: Send address change to Skin Diver Magazine, P.O. Box 52595, Boulder, Colorado 80322-2595.

Divemate.

The Computer.

Intelligence. Awareness. Safety. Freedom.

This truly unique computer provides all its information on a crisp, back-lit screen. When worn on the wrist, the dive time, max depth, no stop time, temperature, safety stops, and decompression information are easily viewed by the diver with just a quick glance. The diver has the ability to alter the units of measure (celsius to fahrenheit or meters to feet), dive tables (aggressive or conservative), and altitude parameters. The enhanced diveplan feature allows the diver to simulate a future dive and view their prospective profile as the computer takes into account their previous dives. The 3.6 volt Lithium battery is user-replaceable. While this compact 2.5" x 3.5", 3.8 oz unit is the most user-friendly computer on the market, there's more. This is the only dive computer on the market to deliver the information shown on the screen... in a **AUDIO MODE**. When worn on the mask strap over the ear, via a lightweight mount, the computer's



synthesized voice tells the diver their depth, no stop time, accent warnings, decompression warnings, and reminds them to check their air at convenient intervals throughout the dive. This voice is easily

heard through a hood and can be shut off under water. The audio feature is especially useful for divers who are photographing, hunting, cave diving, wreck diving or night diving; for instructors who need to keep their eyes on their students, professionals on search and rescue teams, or commercial divers that need the use of both of their hands. The Mares Divemate is truly unique, affordable, and carries an outstanding warranty. It's not by chance that it's from Mares.

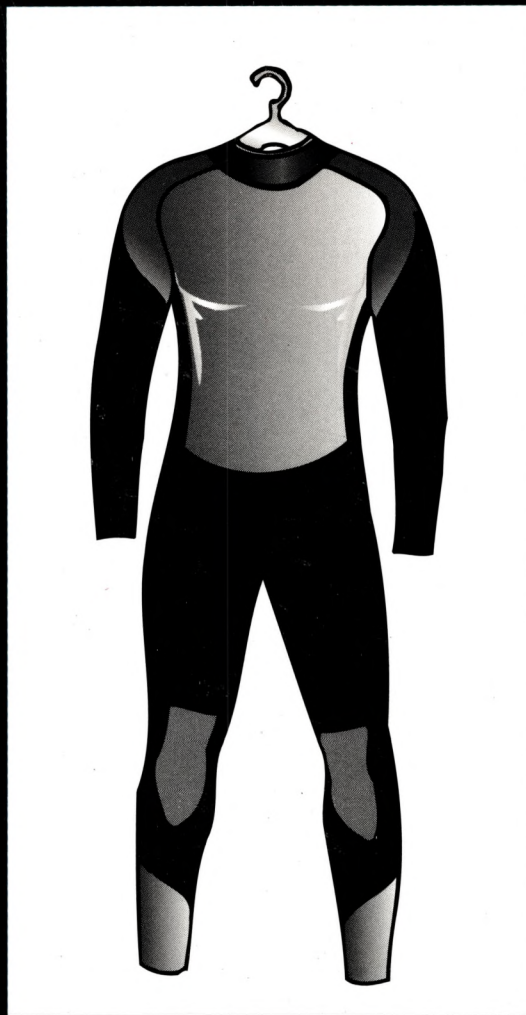


Mares America Corp.
Shore Pointe, One Selleck Street Norwalk, CT 06855
(303) 530-2000

mares[®]
circle #65 on Reader Service Card

Mares Canada
84 Royal Road Guelph, Ontario N1H7H1
(519) 822-1576

**A different kind
of business suit.**

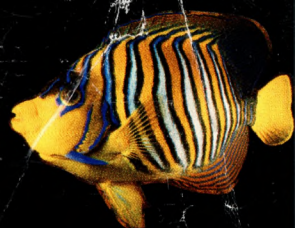


Try it on for size.

Dive Into PADI Leadership.

**GO
PRO**

Dump the pumps and power suits, forget the coats and ties. Whether full-time or sometimes, working underwater requires a new wardrobe. Call for free GO PRO information from PADI, and teach to a higher standard.



PADI

PADI International, 1251 East Dyer Rd., Suite 100, Santa Ana, CA 92705
(714) 540-7234 ext. 564 (800) 729-7234 ext. 564 <http://www.padi.com>

circle #162 on Reader Service Card